

THE
Lucky Idiot :
OR,
Fools have Fortune.

Verified in the LIFE of
D. Pedro de Cenudo,

Whose Follies had generally a prosperous Event:
But when he pretended to be Wise was usu-
ally Unfortunate.

Improv'd with Variety of Moral Remarks, and
Diverting Amusements.

Written in Spanish
By Don Quevedo de Alcala.

Now Rendred into Modern English
By a Person of Quality.

Illustrated with Pictures.

*Omnis tulit Punctum, qui miscuit utile dulci :
Ridentem dicere verum, quis vetat.*



London:

Printed for Nath. Crouch, at the Bell, against Gro-
cers-Alley, in the Poultry, near Cheapside, 1710.

R E

have
Piece
e unaccep
ustrated r
able Rem
wherein th
n his own
umes of L
coasion So
ll Custom
voiding a
ions, a C
Writers in
rs be is fu
pid Peopl
age of hi
Carele
ba should
dering, th
lues to b
uld ha
shes that
obligation
g his Pict
riginal;

TO THE READER.

I have some kind of Assurance that this Piece of Innocent Wit and Mirth will not be unacceptable to the World, since it is Illustrated with several Moral Reflections, noble Remarks, and diverting Amusements; wherein the Author (who was much esteem'd in his own Countrey for the many large Volumes of Learning which he Published,) takes occasion Satirically to inveigh against several ill Customs and Vices of the Age; carefully avoiding all profane and Lascivious Expressions, a Crime too Familiar with our Modern Writers in this kind. He acquaints his Readers he is fully satisfied, that Ignorant and Invid People upon the first View of the Title-page of his Discourse will lay it aside with all Carelessness and Neglect imaginable, as who should say, what's all this to us? Not considering, that by this slight they discover themselves to be more concern'd in it, than they could have it thought they are; And he wishes that every Fool would be sensible of the obligation he is under to the Author for drawing his Picture, how short soever it is of the original; For it would puzzle a Wise Man

To the Reader.

to collect all the Follies, that a silly Wretch
able to commit. This Tratt seems to be a P
radox, the Praise of Folly having been
tempted in that kind, by the Learned Er
asmus; and Other Authors have writ Encon
ums on the Gout, the Venereal Disease, &
As if they intended to laugh Men out of th
Vices and Immoralities by this way of tre
ing those Subjects. And certainly some F
lies may be avoided, if Men would serio
attend to the Design of our Spaniard in
Fancy; which will then have its desir'd Verifie
d effect: For as the Poet says,

—Ridentem dicere Verum, Quis vetat

Why main't the Truth be spoke,
Though only in a Joke.

There is a Proverb, that Spanish Wit
Spanish Bread are equally scarce, and ex
lent in their kind; and 'tis manifest, —
fewer Books are Printed in that Tongue,
in many other European Languages;
those which are Publish'd, have an un
mon Strain of Wit and Ingenuity in them.
Don Quevedo's Visions, Don Quixot, C
man, Lazarillo, &c. Neither is this s
Piece without its peculiar turn of Thou
and may therefore claim a Share of the
probation of the English Reader.

He Give
Birth

I

anity be

Audie

renowne

J. L
fully satis

sterity,

The Lucky Idiot:

O R,

Fools have Fortune:

Verified in the Life of D. Pedro Cenu-
do, the Foolish Spaniard.

C H A P. II.

He Gives an Account of his Parentage,
Birth and Education.

TO the Mothers of the Whole
Race of Fools, Greeting, and
your Attention I humbly be-
seech you; if I may without
Vanity bespeak so Great and so Illustrious
an Audience; Bless your selves in your
Renowned Issue, a Generation of People
fully satisfied in themselves, and whose
Posterity, as the Fruit of their Ignorance,

shall bring Honour to their Progenitors
Suffer your selves to be undeceived, f^{moured}
you will find that in all Places and Age^s possible
he, that Ennobleth and Enricheth a Fam^yly, is a Foolish Son ; Fortune indulgⁱⁿ
their Imperfections, and befriending the^s Marriag^e
Miscarriages, to manifest her Power such Occ^s
bestowing her Favours upon those that a^{re} juded by
most unworthy of them : And doubt^{not} he shoul^d
you cannot be insensible of the Truth him lye
this Maxim, who have brought into t^{is}oon clo^w
World so great a number of Blockheads have des^t
To confirm your Opinion in this Matt^r to the M^o
instead of Multiplying Arguments, Marry he
shall Fortify the same by relating the tr^e he last C^o
History of an Idiot in our times : wh^{ch} in coⁿ
may have the better relish with the Inte^r after he h^{as}
gent Reader, because it shall be presen^tead.
ted to him in his own Words, without R^{es} From t^{is}
Flections or Observations.

Know then, my Dear Friends, that I was conceived in Original Folly ; and on the other truly say, I was a Fool on all sides. My Father was a Man well born, had takeⁿ confide^d his Degree of Batchelor of Arts at Alcavith him and was in a promising way of gainin^g herfore most Honourable Employment : He w^{as} in Love with my Mother, being a You^r, a Vⁱ Woman of good Extraction, and likew^a a Fool by Complexion. This good Fath^r

of mine being wounded with the Darts of her Killing Eyes, was desperately enamoured of her, and therefore resolved if possible to enjoy her; to which end he used the common Bait of promising her Marriage, with all the solemn Protestations that Lovers commonly make upon such Occasions; She, Poor Soul, being deluded by his Vows, and Oaths, consented he should use her at his Pleasure, and let him lye at Rack and Manger: But being soon cloyed with her Charms he would have deserted her, had she not appeal'd to the Magistrate, who obliged him to Marry her, when her Honour was even at the last Gasp, being very big with Child, and so compelled him (as the Proverb says) after he had defiled his Hat to put it on his Head.

From this Folly of theirs I was born, at me when the Council of the Indies nominated my Father to go to a Government in the other World, which was like burying him in this. Now I being newly born, take considered, that the Embarking me Alcav with him would endanger my Life, and therefore concluded to leave me in charge He with a Brother of his, then Curate of O-Youn, a Village Three Leagues from Madrid,

I was then put out to suck the Bread
of a jolly Woman, a Farmer's Wife
Odon, who was rude and unpolish'd both
in her Behaviour and Discourse : Here you
may already perceive that I begin to make
some Apology for my Education ; for
what could I learn from a Woman of the
Quality ? She gave me in her Milk the
Quintessence of Garlick, Onions, and
Wine, which was her daily Sustenance
so that you may observe I was Rustic
both in Body and Soul : But as Fortune
many times takes care of those who are
forsaken by the World, I grew Strong and
Robust with this homely Food : However
I retained the Physiognomy of my Nurse
having a brown Skin, and a surly Frown
which probably happened by the ill Look
she always put on, when she fed me ; for
Power has Imagination over us from those
we are conversant with, since the Dread
her Severity did so possess me, that I con-
nually ruminating thereupon, it appeared
upon my Face ; my Head being likewise
disturbed by her hideous Scolding, and my
Patience confounded by continual Vexa-
tions.

Being arrived to Seven Years of Age, my Uncle thought it was time for me to learn to Write and Read, in which I was instructed in the Company of another Nephew of his of the same Age, who lived with him: My Countenance indicated me to have a contumacious and rebellious Wit, with a kind of stubborn Reservedness; so that in the Town they usually, courteously term'd me, *The Frowner*, instead of calling me Fool. My Uncle was of a rough Temper, but had a plodding Head, so that though at every turn he whip'd my School-fellow for neglecting his Task, yet he seldom corrected me, reckoning me a Fool, and that therefore my dulness was to be excused, but not the other, who was a brisk Lad, and ready witted. From this time forward my Folly was very beneficial to me, since it saved me from many a whipp'g, and I lost nothing in the Conclusion, for I learn'd as much as my Fellow, who though he had more Capacity, yet was not inclin'd to Learing.

C H A P. II.

*The Follies he committed, while he con-
tinued with the Curate, his Uncle.*

MY Uncle's Living was worth him Eight Hundred Ducats, or Two Hundred Pound a Year, yet was he wretchedly covetous, that he would keep no Servant, but made us his Drudges to answer all his Occasions. He often employed me to fetch him Wine, but having a liquorish Tooth, I was always his Taster, and supplied the Deficiency with Water out of the River; and he finding it small was much concern'd, saying, That Cenando is so great a Fool, that the Vintner puts any thing upon him; he would therefore trust me no more upon such Errand. My Comrade gladly undertook my Office, and being naturally addicted to play, lov'd to be gadding abroad. However that I might not be idle, my Uncle ordered me to take care of the Bells, and ring them upon all Occasions, a thing which judged very troublesome, and which would be almost impossible for me to perform, if my Folly did not help me out. This Office the good Curate contrived for

me to satisfy my Head up and down Steeple dure the fuck'd it



I rememb
the N
w to m
ng him
lls, hi
ual in S

me to save the Charge of a Sexton ; but my Head was not steddy enough to run up and down the turning Stairs of the Steeple so many times a day, nor to endure the Noile of the Bells ; for having suck'd in so much Onions and Garlick with my Milk, my *Pericranium* was in a perpetual Giddiness.



I remember once that in the dead time
of the Night there came a Countrey-Fel-
low to my Uncle in great haste, intreat-
ing him to give order for knocking the
Bells, his Wife being in Labour (a thing
seen in Spain.) My good Curate then
waked

waked me out of a Sound Sleep, saying
Rise Pedro instantly, and ring the Bell
for Child-birth quickly, quickly; I got
up immediately, and as Fools have good
Memories, I retained the Words quickly,
quickly, and knock'd the Bells so nimble
that the Inhabitants of the Town readily
believ'd it had been for Fire: At the
alarm, they all got out of their Beds, run-
ning from their Houses, some with Pitt-
ers, others with Kettles and Buckets, a
some with Water-Engines straight to the
Church, and asked me where, where
replied, in such a Man's House, thinking
they had inquired where the Woman
Travel was, and the Curate being all
fallen asleep I had no body to inform me
my Mistake.

The Neighbours, who were got together in great Numbers; hastened to the House, and seeing a great deal of Smoke coming out of the Chimney, for they had kindled the Child-bed Fire with Strange which is often poor peoples Fewel, they all concluded the House was on Fire, and play'd their Engines upon it, pouring a their Pitchers and Kettles into the Chimney, and untiring the Roof to quench the Fire. Others fell to breaking open the Door with a terrible clattering, and hearing the

Woman

Woman crying out in her Child birth Pains, they carried her out of her Bed in their Arms into the Street, no Intreaties nor Arguments being able to prevent it. When they came near to see where the Fire was, such Abundance of Rubbish had fallen upon it, that they thought the Poor Woman owed the saving her Life to their Diligence, who was deliver'd before all the People in the middle of the Street, among a Multitude of Lights, so that there were Witnesses enough to prove the Child was truly born of its Mother, and not surreptitious: The Relation, which the Husband gave, was not sufficient to perswade the People that the Bells were not rung for the Quenching a Fire, but for Child-birth; and though he swore it an Hundred times, yet they would not believe him. So common it is, that more Credit is given to a lying Rascal than to an honest Man: I was sorry the Fault was not at my Door, for I was weary of my Uncle: My Uncle suspected the matter, dissembled it at present, because would not anger the Parties aggrieved, resolved within himself to discharge from my Office in a short time.

A while after dyed one of the principal men of the Parish, a Gentleman of a good Family;

16 *The Lucky Idiot: Or,*

Family; but a Person that would make
Fool of himself, and would go out upon
a Holiday; when he was a little Elevated
with Wine, and dance to a Pipe and a Tabo-
bour with the Young Men and Women
the Town in a ridiculous manner. My
Uncle hearing he was dead came with
speed to me, saying, Go Pedro, go ride
for the Dead without Lazyness merrily
merrily. He thought I understood his
meaning, and that a Word was enough
me; I went to the Belfry incontinent
resolving to obey him exactly; ruminating
in my Mind, why he should bid me ride
for the Dead merrily; what thought I
my self, surely the Physician, or else
Lawyer of our Town is dead, that my
Uncle has a Desire I should celebrate
with so much Mirth; and began to con-
der, that the Merriest Tune I knew was
that which was played upon the Tabour
and so I knock'd Two of the Bells with
both my Hands so much to the Life, and
with such an Air, that many People
sware to me afterwards they could not
forbear Dancing to hear it.

The Relations of the dead Man imagined
ing that I affronted him, because of his
former Frolics, came with their Hand-
Pikes and Lances toward the Belfry, and

ng out, Thou Rogue, thou Rascal, dost
you know what thou art doing ? What's the
meaning of it ? I seeing such a Squadron
o armed at all Points was the more con-
irm'd in my Mistake, that they came to
make merry for the Death of one of the
fore-mentioned with a Battle Dance,



herein they skirmish in Spain, with Dag-
magies, Lances, and other Weapons in their
of hands, dancing all the time ; I then struck
Bells more nimbly, and pleased my
with the Sound : But they redoubling
near Bayling, I held still a while for cu-
riosity,

riosity, and heard them say to me, *The Villain, who bid thee ring after this manner?* I supposing, they had admired Musick, replyed, *My Uncle ordered to do it:* Scarce had I prononnced the Words, when they ran in all hast to House; by which time he came puff and blowing, with his Gown tuck'd at his Girdle to the Church, sweating he drop'd, and roaring out, *what dost do, Fool and Beast that thou art?* Perceiving he was angry, I left off knocking Bells, and he cryed, *Come down, thou Brat come down, thou wilt undo me:* I came accordingly, and found my good Cur surrounded with these Executioners, making a great Noise; I regarded what they said, only heard my Uncle *He'll tell you, let him tell;* they all reply'd he had told them already, it was done by his Order, and drawing nearer to him, Uncle cryed, *Come hither, you Son of a Whore!* (My Boxes of ther could have said no more to me) When Gam said I, did not you bid me ring merrier Rar and what Tune can you have merrier Of all the that; hereupon they all fell a laughing that and went away, satisfied that it was or other, my Folly which occasioned it: Who in Employment would not have thought that this Fool but more

This should have been my undoing, yet it was quite contrary, since it eased me of my Trouble; for my Uncle's Anger being appeased, supposing I did it out of Ignorance, he never corrected me for the Blunder, but to prevent his being brought into such another Premunire, he deprived me of my Sexton's Place, and gave it to my Companion.

He had some Suspicion that my Cozen was a great Lover of his Belly, and in regard he had more Kindness for him than me, he employed him to take Care of the Larder; now the Curate being wretchedly saving, he thought it proper, we should change Places; he therefore made me Overseer of his Provisions, and gave me the Key of the Room, wherein he lock'd up all his Dainties: You see here, that I am Master of what I greedily desired, by my Folly. He delivered all to me by Account, as Cheeses, Honey, Pom-Citrons, Boxes of Quince Marmalade, Two Dozen Gamons of Bacon, and an hundred other Rarities presented him by the Nuns: Of all these I took a little daily; but doubtful that I should be discovered one time or other, and discharged from this delightful Employment, and that he would with more ado turn me into the Quire to sing,

20 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

sing, I thought upon this Stratagem, thing hom
I would perswade him we were extreame, an
ly haunted with Mice ; and with was the A
Thoughts of this Politick Device I seem'd w
boldly upon the Cheese, Biscakes ais no gre
Sweet-meats, and eat as much as I haue Sauce
Mind to ; but having a great Passion psis them
the Gammons of Bacon, I was afraid but this w
Mice would not excuse me for medlept the C
with them, who usually eat little of he Callin
because they are hindred by the Swordome in Si

Now my Uncle going in daily to
serve the Condition his Provisions were
I took an Occasion to tell him ; certain
Sir, there is no enduring the Neighbo
hood of these Mice, for I always find th
have devoured something or other ; if y
think convenient, we will put in a C
who will soon spoil their thieving Tra
This Advice pleased my Uncle wonder
well, who was enraged at the Robberpier,
of these Vermine, and so made an Hone
in the Door for her to go in, though I shes no
the Cat that did all the Dammage, joyes, he
took what I pleased of the Sassages aarts. De
Gammons, and while the other Servants Read
were at Mass, and a little Old Woman some
had was gone to Market for Meat, I fryds, wh
all for my Supper, and drove the hung , The
Spirit out of my Guts. The Curate gon the
m

thing home took notice what Ravage was
creade, and instantly concluded the Cat
was the Author of all the Mischief, yet
I seem'd well enough contented, saying,
as no great matter, these filthy Mice have
habour Sauce with their Sweet Meat, for it
on ofts them their Lives to fill their Bellies.
didnt this was his Mistake, since I always
edliept the Cat-hole shut, for being both of
ofbe Calling, I was unwilling she should
ordome in Snacks with me.

C H A P. III.

*He Robs his Uncle of Four Hundred
Crowns, and goes to Madrid.*

Traytteen Years I spent in the Life I have
ndro related, not knowing there was any
bbenevier, which yet ought not to be rec-
an Honed my Misfortune; for while a Man
gh I desires no more than what he at present
e, enjoys, he may truly be said to have his
ges hearts Desire: I always had an Inclinati-
servato Reading of Books, and often car-
man some of my Uncles with me into the
I frids, where I perused them, particu-
hung, The History of *Gusman* the Rogue,
rate *Gon* the Squire, *Lazarillo*, and other
Histories

22 · *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

Histories of this kind, wherewith I ent'ken leav-
tained my self pleasantly in Summerie. Up-
der the Shade of the flourishing Tress dep-
and in Winter sitting in the Sun.

It happened at the time of one of the
Great Festivals, that a Gentleman of Qe Ables-
tity was committed Prisoner to the Caesire w^c
of Odon for a Quarrel which he had w^c Natu-
a Nobleman belonging to the Court; herewith
Gentleman undertook to treat the Inpt in a
bitants of the Town with an Entertⁱ I came to
ment at his own Charge, and to thank'd him
sent for a Company of Stage-Players fig; he to
Madrid, who represented an Excel^t there a
Comedy with Variety of Wit and Blaughin
mour, being withal very Rich in Cleⁱ act the
and the Ornements of the Stage; I, & someti
had never seen nor heard any thing likens Hou
was wonderfully surprized with Adm^radid w
tion, and followed the Players with o^c I knew
Mouth, as if I expected their Great made
should have entred into me. They am; for
everal Comedies in the Castle to dwn of O
the Gentleman, at which I was never let me g
sent, and was so attentive, that I lost what was
one Sentence which I could carry away. It was
my Memory. After they had continuall self to b
there Three Days, I perceived they many Fort
Preparations to be gone, and had a cou^rved me
of Coaches at the Gate, having alre^t Two

ent been leave of the Gouverour of the Caverie. Upon this mournful Sight I was al-
Trost deprived of my Senses, wishing I
had never seen them, for it seemed impos-
of ale, that I should live in their deplora-
l Qe Absence; and so much did this earnest
Caesire work upon me, that it overcame
d w^y Natural Cowardise and Restraint,
t; herewith I had hitherto been to my Shame
I Impt in awe.

I came to one of the Comedians, and
hauk'd him civilly whether they were go-
rs fig; he told me to *Madrid*; and do you
xcell there as often as you have done here?
nd b^t laughing replyed, there, Friend, why
the act there Two Comedies every day,
I, & sometimes half a Dozen, in Gentle-
g likens Hous^s. I understood already that
Admadrid was the Principal City in Spain,
which I knew not wherefore it was so, or
that made it the Metropolis of the King-
ey ams; for I never had been out of the
o down of *Oden*, nor ever desired my Uncle
ever let me go abroad; but when I heard
I lollat was done in *Madrid* every Day, and
away it was not many Miles off, I thought
ontinself to be very near Heaven, and cur-
ney m^y Fortune, that had for Sixteen Years
a cou^d ved me of seeing a Place where there
g alre^d Two Comedies a day, and many

times half a Dozen in particular Hours the
I then resolved to say to Death, when it keept
came with his Writ of Execution to Poor Ro
away my Life, that there wanted yet sy as the
teen Years, because those, which m^{ay} be imputed to me all the time I dwelt
Odon was not to live, nor any thing like
It is not possible, said I, for any Man to
among the Barbarians in this Town,
have not Two Comedies every day,
many times Six in Noblemen's Hous
This I ruminated every Moment in
Imagination.

It happened afterwards, that during
Confinement of that Gentleman in
Castle, there came Two Men with
Ladies of Courtly Behaviour and ple
Conversation to make him a Visit ; I
up and down amongst them, being
come all Eyes, and thinking my self
new World ; I soon became acquai
with a strait Limb'd Page about my
Years, having an earnest Desire to in
my self of all Affairs ; He told me,
those with whom his Master past away
Tedium of his Imprisonment
Men of Sense, who composed Verses,
such Comedies as had been acted at O
I asked him if the Ladies came from
drid, he said yes ; I added innocently,

Iou the Cavaliers and Gentlemen of that
hen City keep several Women ; aye, and the
Poor Rogues too, said he, maintain as ma-
et sy as their Industry and Money will allow
hem : I told him, I had read that the
Grand Turk had great Numbers of Wo-
men ; Friend said he, the Grand Signior
keeps them as his Wives, but these ne-
ver commit Matrimony ; so much the
better, reply'd I, for this way of Living
with them pleases my Gusto, and a Man
may converse as pleasantly with them as
the Great Turk does with his Ladies.
When I understood, that there were di-
verting Comedies, ingenious Men, deli-
cate and Beautiful Women at Madrid,
and that they would be complaisant with-
out the trouble of Marriage, only with
the Expence of a little Money, I was
holly ravish'd with the Thoughts of all
these Enjoyments, and resolved to go thither
with the first Opportunity.

But being sensible that if I went to Ma-
ridia without Money, I should be expo-
sed to all manner of Inconveniences, Mi-
rries and Insults, I began to contrive how
put my self in a Condition to go thither
with all necessary Accommodations.
Father sent every Year by the Fleet
the Indies, about Four Hundred

Crowns to the Curate my Uncle to pay
for the Charge of my Education, and was, and
maintain me in the University of Salamanca, roar-
ca, in studying the Civil Law, a thin Thieves,
which he in several Letters recommended me
ed to my Uncle; who usually returned floor, a
Answer, that tho' I was still a Fool, always o-
he hoped in a little time to teach me more Conser-
Discretion, that I might not be scorned or the
and derided by my Fellow-Students. At the Str-
bout this time the Fleet and the Four Hund^d I ;
dred Crowns arriving, I thought it w^t street-do-
great Pity that he should be paid with su-
Liberality, who bred me up with so mu-
Misery; and as a Strong Inclination ie mean-
ways finds Arguments to strengthen it, too-
judg'd it to be but a case of Restitution here the
take from him that which came upon ^{newly} dep-
Account; and I find it may be necessar^{ur}, I le-
in order to be a Thief, that one shouldough I fo-
thought to be a Fool.

My Uncle laid his Breeches, where Joy of
he kept the Key of his Treasure, und^r.
his Pillow every Night, so that it was in The Cur-
practicable to open his Cabinet without first te-
manifest Peril: I therefore found out th^rking it,
Contrivance; about Two a Clock in t^cket, im-
Morning it being very dark, I rise wi-
out Noise, and opened the Street Doc^d catch-
and all the rest to that where the Cur^s; he i-
w^t the Lig

was, and returning to my Bed, I began
to roar out aloud, Uncle, Sir, Uncle,
Thieves, Thieves ; he waking and hear-
ing me bawl, instantly jumps into the
Floor, and taking his Sword which lay
yelways on his Bed-Tester, in a great
Consternation ask'd, where dost thou
near the Rogues ? Where are they ?

At the Street-Door they make a Noise,
Haid I ; with this he hastens to the
Street-door, which was at some distance,
fidding me rise and light a Candle ; all
this while my Cozen was asleep ; and in
the mean-time I search'd my Uncles Poc-
ets, took out the Key of the Cabinet
here the Four Hundred Crowns were
newly deposited, and finding them in a
cessur, I left the Cabinet open ; then al-
ough I found the Candle I made no hast
light it, till I had first secur'd my Purse,
Joy of my Life, and my only Com-

The Curate finding the Doors open,
first to shutting that next the Street,
king it, and putting the Key in his
cket, imagining the Thief was within,
that not being able to get out, he
ould catch him with the Plunder in his
Doo ; he then cryed out, Boy bring hi-
the Light ; I came down with the

28 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

Candle, and found him with his back wicked
against the Door in a fighting Posture, cut the Just
ting and slashing the Air, and calling ou Matter
you sacrilegious Rogues, what rob th departe
Curate, one of Heaven's Ambassador I let f
what steal from the Church, you impio leave of
Miscreants; sure the Church must be fane Mo
great Danger: when the Light was broug from the
Come *Pedro*, said he, follow me, and was an
us search every Room strictly; we did cess; so
and went locking them all up till we ca my left
where the Robbery had been done; wh toward
he saw the Cabinet open he was like Py Stars
have fallen into a Swound, and was all of living
ver in a cold Sweat, as if they had ta was, th
away his Blood; and no wonder, for N which I i
ney is the Blood of Life, without wh of Pedro
no Man is able to breath. At length Andrew c
covering a little, well said he, 'tis d I was mo
and all over, we are come too late; t my Father
going nearer, and finding the Purse w such a qui
ing, he cryed out aloud, all's gone; ll my se
Thieves have made their Escape, and or the Fra
was the Noise thou heardst at the D
Let us go to the Justice of Peace,
make Affidavit of what I have lost;
now I think on't, do thou stay at ho
and lock the Door on the inside, for
it should be the Devil, and he sh
come for more, for who else would b

wicked to rob a Priest. He then brought
the Justice, who took an Account of the
Matter as is usual in such cases, and then
departed.

I let some days pass over before I took
leave of my Uncle's House ; but one plea-
sant Morning I resolved to depart, and
from the Chearfulness thereof judged it
was an happy Omen of my future Suc-
cess ; so placing my Purse of Ducats on
my left side near my Heart, I travelled
toward Madrid, imagining that my hap-
py Stars had directed me to this new way
of living ; the greatest trouble I then had
was, that my Surname of *Hernandez*,
which I inherited of my Parents, and that
of *Pedro* before it, sounded like amerry
Andrew on a Stage ; but remembiring that
I was more indebted to my Frown than to
my Father, since I had thereby enjoyed
such a quiet Life, I thereupon resolved to
call my self for the future *Pedro Cenudo*,
or the *Frowner*.

C H A P. IV.

At Madrid he enters himself into the Service of an Aragonian Gentleman. He relates the Follies he was guilty of in that Station.

IN a short time I arrived at *Madrid* and went directly up to the Market place, where seeing a Number of People stand together, I ask'd what they were; they told me they were *Alguazils* and *Servanos* (or Bailiffs and Attorneys.) grieved me already to think I was come where there was so much Justice: Since that I am said I, we could never live quietly in our Town, only for having no Lawyer amongst us, how shall I end this Place where there are so many? little farther I met the Page with whom I was acquainted at *Odon*, he said he was glad to see me; I told him I had some conference with the Curate, and was come from him with a design to live at Court thou comest in a lucky Hour, replied for a Gentleman lately desir'd me to set him out a Page, and if thou accept'st it, thou wilt live very happily. I consider'd of his Proposal, and approved it; for though I brought a good Sum

- Mon

Money with me, yet that would soon be waited if I should spend upon the main Stock, which I thought it was best to preserve till a time of Necessity, and to help me out at a dead Lift.

Hereupon I desired him to carry me to a Salesmans, where I bought a Suit and Cloak of black Serge; and at a Semstresses I furnish'd my self with starch'd Ruffs, and Cuffs; being thus Equip'd I thought my self more gentile than *Narcissus*, for he never wore starch'd Ruffs; I now began to percieve that Money was the most powerful thing in the World, and that it supplied all the Defects of Nature; since if a Man be as Rustick, and unpolish'd as if he had convers'd only with the Beasts of the Field all his Life, yet by Virtue of this great Prince he becomes a Beau, and is counted wise, and every way an accomplish'd Person. He then brought me to be seen of my Maiter, who was an Aragonian Gentleman, tall, and in Years, and likewise short-sighted. He had married a Young Lady about Sixteen, and came to Court in hope to get an Employment. Now to qualify himself the better, he took care to have a great number of Servants, and that they should all have good Liveries and seeing me well clad,

32 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

clad, and as severe in my Countenance as a Judge, this Lad, says he, promises well; whence art thou? a Native of Madrid, said I; thou art no Fool then add he, as if there were no Fools born in the City: He would have treated with me bout my Sallery, but I not well understanding what to demand, answered, Trouble not your self, worthy Sir, about the for I think my self sufficiently happy having the Honour to be intituled to yo Service. Observe here, my Ignorance was profitable to me, for the good Gentleman was so pleased with my Courte that he took an Affection to me, and furnish'd me liberally with whatever I had occasion for; whereas if I had made positive Bargain with him I should ha received only my bare Sallery as the did, who had not enough to buy the selves Shoes and Stockins. New Cloth and this Encouragement heightned dull Spirits, and I began to admire my self, I went to kiss my Mistrel's Hand and found she liked me as well as her Husband. She ask'd me some Questions, which I briefly and timerously answered, decring by my blushing the Innocency and Modesty of my Nature.

My Master being a Pretendant, or one that solicited for an Office at Court, was not much at home, which I did not like, for when he went abroad he would never suffer either Page or Lacquey to stay behind, thinking he should diminish his Nobility if we did not all follow him. From that time I began to Philosophize, and to consider what worldly Honour was, and that the Ostentation of being attended with little slovenly Lacqueys and Pages was the only way to obtain Credit and Reputation among Grandees. We went sometimes all day long following his Horse, which made me say to my self, whether dost thou go? Thou followest a Beast, and for certain thou wilt never come to good. At other times my Pretendant went out in his Coach, and though there was room enough for us Four behind it, yet he would never allow thereof, but obliged us to walk on foot bareheaded round the same, with our Green Liveries like Foot-Boys of the Pageant Giants which are carried in Procession; neither could I take my Rest in the Night, being employed the greatest part of it in carrying Letters and Messages to one Nobleman or other; a thing that my Humour could never comply with

with, to stand waiting at Peoples Doors
and kneeling to a Nobleman when I de-
livered him a Letter, according to the
Custom of this Countrey, while he no
regarding me, and turning his Head an-
ther way, I was compelled to continue in
that Posture of Devotion till I was ready
to curse him.

Such was my ill Fortune all the time
I was reckoned to be wise, and it was cer-
tainly a Trick put upon me by the En-
emy of Mankind, to persuade me to pre-
tend to be so. For my Master having a
opinion of my Prudence sent me upon a
Message, so that I had not a Moment's
Rest; I therefore resolved to turn Fool
again, and was then as fortunate as be-
fore; and I made my self appear so
the following manner. One Night it be-
ing very late, and I very weary, as I usu-
ally was, my Master had writ a Letter
to send by the Post, but being called to Sup-
per he said to me, seal this Letter, and
carry it to the Post of Aragon, for it
was of great consequence to me: He went
to Supper, and I staid reading the Letter
which seemed to me to be of Love; so
after many tender Expressions, he sent
me to acquaint a Woman, that by all means she
should come to see him, for by reason of

his urgent Occasions he could not go from home. In the Margin he put the Name of the Person to whom he writ, as he used to do, and told me I should add the Supercription, supposing I would perceive it was for a Sister of his by the Name which he had left written. Not far from our House dwel'd a Lady of Pleasure, who admitted of Visits from any Gentleman, and subsisted upon what was given her by those who had a Passion for her; to be plain, she was an impudent Hackney Jade, and an *Aragonian*, being nickname'd, the Post of *Aragon*: I imagining it was a Love-Letter, and rememb'reing I was to carry it to the Post of *Aragon*, did not doubt but it was for her, whereupon I seal'd it, but put no Supercription thereon, as judging it very indecent, since it was an amorous Billet. I carried it to the Post, who ask'd me from whence it came, I told her from a Gentleman of *Aragon*, who had set his Name to it. She opened it with a Smile, and read thus;

‘ My Dear, to make me most happy,
there needs no more than that thou wilt
procure it by coming to see me; the
way is short, and I could heartily wish
that I were free from Business, for then

‘ I assure thee I would visit thee ever Post, for
‘ day ; there shall be nothing wanting Beards,
‘ oblige thee, when I shall have the Pleasur
‘ sure to see thee at my House ; which underfa
‘ hope will not be long, and shall the said I, th
‘ give thee an account of Affairs of greing Room
‘ Moment. Heaven preserve thee, &c. her wait

She was extreamly pleased with the dressing
kind Expressions in this Paper, and being from you
very willing to comply with my Request. The C
ask'd me if this might be a proper O'self, and
portunity ; I told her yes, because it finds the
Master had a desire she should come with sparing
that Instant. She made me sit down, attendance,
calling her Servant, who was a Tawing the L
Moor, went into her Apartment, apriz'd at
rigg'd her self with a pair of Embrothere was
der'd Stays, and a Mantle with Goluch a kin
Flowers, and taking her Maid by thlways co
Hand, with her Face veil'd, only Ordour
Eye being visible, according to the customions ; the
of this Countrey, we came to my Mavould ha
ster's House. I went in first to give him my Se
notice, and finding him at Supper with his no
his Wife, I whisper'd him in the Ear however he
saying, Sir, the Post of Aragon is come & joiced a
what dost thou mean, cried he ; whence ?
Sir said I, I have brought her hither, My Mil
handsom brisk Girl : The Old Gentleman crecy w
was ignorant that there was so pleasing and at Ta

Post.

ever Post, for he thought all Posts had wore
Beards, and understood me not, asking
Pleas an Hundred Questions ; neither could I
much understand him ; at length, come Sir,
the said I, the Lady expects you in the Draw-
ing Room, and 'tis ungenteel to make
her wait so long ; she was less time in
dressing her self, than you are in rising
from your Chair.

The Old Spark gets up, crossing him-
self, and coming down into the Room,
finds the Post there, a likely young Girl,
with sparkling Eyes, and a smiling Coun-
tenance, who making a Curtsey and hold-
ing the Letter in her Hand, he was sur-
priz'd at the Novelty. Sir, said she,
brother was no Occasion for you to send
such a kind Paper to me, whom you may
thilways command, and who thinks it an
OnHonour to comply with your Inclina-
tions ; the least Message in the World
would have obliged me to come and of-
fer my Service to you ; the Old Letcher
wilt began now to apprehend the Mistake ;
Ear however he thought it a lucky Error, and
some rejoiced at his good Fortune in this Ad-
venture.

My Mistress, who had observed the
secrecy wherewith I delivered my Er-
ring and at Table, and that her Husband had
Post

risen with some Concern upon hearing at what
was somewhat suspicious, and sent her a great
Waiting Woman to pry into the Affair; who returning related both what she did Command
and what she did not see: My Master seemed to
say she has got a Mistress, and Pearection is
his Pimp; she is the bravest Wench in
the whole Town; upon my Modesty of what I
is not so liberal to you as he is to her. Away
what a curious Golden Mantle, and a Silver Wasicoat has this old Dotard pre-
sented her with! the decrepid Wretch
seems young again: This you deserve
for your Squeamishness; but I hope you
will be more complaisant hereafter, for
so many fine Gentlemen sigh for you,
possibly you will say, ah, but I shall write
my Husband; alas, I love him dear
ill Luck light on him, whose Years would
think should make him renounce
such Game; if it be so with him, what
will a young beardless Husband be? A
these are unhappy Days for young Women
to marry in; upon my Honor Madam, I saw him so cold and indifferent
with you, that I imagined he had renounced
his Love-Toys with his Age, but
Murrain on him, I find he has still a Cold
Tooth in his Head for a wanton Mistress.
The poor Young Lady was much disturbed.

g at what she heard, and thinking it would
be a great Dishonour if it were known,
that a Gouty Old Fellow should prefer
Common Strumpet before her, she dis-
embled the Matter with the greatest Dis-
cretion imaginable, pretending she nei-
ther understood nor believed one Word
of what her Servant had told her.

Away went the Post, and my Master
calling me, reproved me severely; but
satisfied him that it was my Ignorance,
and he having had a pleasing Entertain-
ment, passed it by, but resolved for the
future to look upon me as a Fool, and so
took away from me all the Papers and
other Business, wherein he had for-
merly employed me, doubting that I
would commit some other Blunder of
more fatal Consequence. Thus was I
rid of a great deal of Trouble only for
one Folly; what should I have been if I
had committed many! But Fortune con-
sidered I was a Fool, and was therefore
more kind and Favourable to me, and
reated me as a Friend.

My Mistress was mollified and divert-
ed by the Addresses and Services of a
Nobleman, who courted her with much
Varmth and Tenderness; permitted his
visits sometimes, and received his Pre-
sents

sents; and judging me to be secret, and a dissembler, she desired her Husband that I might be employ'd in her Service to wait upon her and carry Messages, to take her own Page in my stead: Master was pleas'd with the Motion, the Bargain was struck instantly, as that swops away a Horse.

C H A P. V.

He prosecutes his History, and relates what happened to him at Court, being a Page.

IT is a general Custom over all *S* for the Nobility and Gentry to ret^{er} in their Houses certain Women (w^{ch} are usually ancient Widows, and sometimes Wives) to be Governesses of the Houses, who wear a particular Habit and are call'd *Duenna's*; some Ladies keeping Two, some Four, others Six of them, according to their Quality: my Mistress had one of them.

A few days after I had been in the Service of my new Commandress, I w^{as} call'd aside by the *Duenna* into a private Room, who peeping into every Corner

To see if any body heard us, I certainly concluded that she would give me a Schooling for Pimping for my Master. The Reverend Matron with her Rosary of Beads about her Neck, a little Book of Devotion in her Hand, and a pair of large Spectacles on her Nose, took me by the Arm, saying, ‘*Pedro*, though honest Servants have no need to be admonish’d of being trusty, because their Nature prompts them to be so; yet they commit many Errors by not thoroughly understanding their Business; now, my Son, I will give you some few necessary Instructions: You are come into a very Honourable and Credible House, and have till now serv’d your Master only; but remember that the Neglects which you may be guilty of toward them, are not of so great Consequence as those which are committed toward Ladies; you serve my Mistress, observe what I say, you must comply with all her Desires, and must never dispute her Commands, but obey them, whether they seem just or unjust, for such Objections are more proper for Churchmen than for Pages: If you would act discreetly, and promote your own Advantage, you must be all Obedience;

‘ obey

‘ obey Friend and be silent if you h[ave] now
‘ to be obey’d another day ; you see Jolly was
‘ ny in’ the Streets who live handsomely my In
‘ and have Servants of their own, by same jealo
‘ ing complaisant in their Service to likewise
‘ thers. My Mistress knows you to generally
‘ loyal and secret, because you have unfaithful
‘ so to your Master, and though it wa[re] in Honour
‘ her Prejudice, yet she esteems you friend, if
‘ those Virtues, hoping that being lebauch
‘ her Page, you will be as faithful to out thy o
‘ you must know then, that a Noble as an O
‘ in this Court, who is both power life did I
‘ and liberal, makes his Addresses to hat take
‘ Lady : She is a Woman but ver[ily] by the Pr
‘ match’d, and thinks she ought to plainly, l
‘ grateful to the Love of this Prince out a me
‘ (ling me his Title) you are to carry hat you
‘ this Letter, which is an Answer to f Mone
‘ of his, and the Reward he will tatterde
‘ you will make you sensible how n Sack
‘ fitable it is to be secret ; and becau[re] carried to
‘ would not always be telling you plendid
‘ same thing, be sure to remember much Go
‘ all the Messages on which you sha[ll] uaintanc
‘ sent to my Ladies Cousin, you ame all
‘ carry to the Count ; and this is eno[ugh] only for l
‘ for your first Lesson ; I gave her Tha
‘ for her prudent Documents, and can othing
‘ the Billet, according to Order.

I now perceiv'd how prejudicial my
jolly was, since I imagined my Mistress
by my Intrigue with her Husband be-
came jealous, and resolv'd on Revenge :
likewise observ'd that married Women
generally learn of their Husbands to be
unfaithful; for as *Pliny* saith, they esteem it
Honour to imitate them: My married
friend, if thou goest abroad a Nights to
lebauch other Mens Wives, never question
but thy own will requite thee, when she
has an Opportunity. What a pleasant
life did I lead in my new Office? Those
that take up this Employment are allur'd
by the Prosperity of Pages; for to speak
plainly, he that is not a Pimp is no Page,
but a meer Pretender to it. The Page
that you see well cloth'd, brisk, and full
of Money, knows his Cuë: Those poor
Farterdemalions that do not, are cloth'd
in Sackcloth. How many Plays was I
carried to? What Sports did I see? What
plendid Feasts did I partake of? How
much Gold had I given me? What Ac-
quaintance did I gain? And from whence
came all this good Fortune to me, but
only for having the Reputation of being
Fool. My Lady thought I understood
nothing by what I saw, and though she
trusted

trusted me in all, yet did not seem to
fide in me at all.

At this time there happened to m
very pleasant Accident : the Gentle
of the Horse had a Quarrel with a p
Lady. He had treated her like a resp
ful Lover, and made her Hands spa
with Diamonds, which shewed his
splendent Folly : Coming to visit her
time before his usual Hour, he catch'd
napping with a Nobleman : some N
after, he surpriz'd her with another C
tleman ; at which being enrag'd
Jealousy, he resolv'd to be reveng
her. To this end he brought me my
ster's richest Suit of Cloths, desiring
I would put them on ; and that being
tended with the rest of my Fellow-P
I should personate the Nobleman, e
make her a Visit ; and should rifle her
teelly of all her Jewels ; for she w
Woman, who not only trusted her J
els to Gentlemen, but her Person w
which she freely surrendred to their l
Now I appearing so grand, we thou
she might not be willing that the first
should be made by Night ; but rather
the Day, which would be more for
Honour ; accordingly my Master be
then Three Leagues from Madrid, at t

to
on
title
a pr
esp
spa
his
her
ch'd
N
er
d
ng
my
ing
om
being
-Pa
n,
her
er
w
on
thou
rst
ather
for
at
Sill
Her's House, which he writ to when
call'd the Post of *Aragon*: I was put in-
his Coach; and the last Charge the
gentleman of the Horse gave me was,
that I should take care to feign my self an
idiot and a Fool, because this vain Wo-
man would have the less Suspicion of me.
In this Equipage we came to her House,
being very gallant, and sitting in state in
the Coach with the Pages round it; I sent
one of them to acquaint her that the
Count of *Rapina* was there; the Door
as soon open'd, we entred, and I making
my Honours by measure, sat down without
speaking a Word, surveying the Lady
from Top to Toe: Do not think this
was the Action of one in Love; no, no,
I had another Project, as you will soon
hear; in viewing her I began to reflect
what Pity it was, that so fine a Face and
shape should be guilty of such wicked
practices; and that such a beautiful Head
should be so void of Sense; What Sot-
tness is it then for Men to run mad af-
ter Beauty; I always thought that they
seem'd handsom Faces, because they
imagined that the Mind was agreeable to
the Body; and that Nature was so kind
to imprint Persons Dispositions upon
Countenances; that the Frowner
like

like me, seems to say with his Face, t
heed of me for I am discontented and
condition'd : The chearful Look, t
he's all Pleasantness and Goodness : T
fwarthy and Tawny complexion'd, t
he has a course Soul : The high color
and fiery fac'd, that he is choleric &
desperate ; but woful Experience sh
us it is far otherwise : For this Wom
tho' transcendently handsome, was
of a furious and treacherous Temp
false to the Gentleman of the Horse, t
mad with me, as by the Sequel appre

She was much concern'd to see me
much surpriz'd at my coming in ; I cri
it is she without doubt, tho' she is inju
in her Picture ; she ask'd me what I sa
I told her, that lying idle at my Sea
Rapina, I had sent for the Pictures of
most beautiful Ladies of the Court ; a self to
that among them all I was so enamou
with hers, that I left my Lady Moth
and my good Gammons of Bacon, on
to see the Original, which now appear
to me much handsomer than the Picture
she laugh'd at the Gammōns of Bac
and my Lady Mother, and concluded
was a Fool, accounting her self alrea
Lady of all *Rapina*, and treated me wi
the most obliging Expressions of Lo

Kindness; but this had no Influence
on me; for though I have confes'd I
was a Fool, yet I was not a Brute; for
sure you, upon the Faith of an ill con-
ion'd Man, her Flatteries did no way
are me, I rather nauseated them, and
erefore made my Visit the shorter; I
quainted her that I was extreamly plea-
with some Diamond Rings which she
had on her Fingers, and plucking them
said I, 'By the Life of my Mother
will have as many more made for you,
with small Diamonds like Stars, of the
ame fashion; how admirably they
ook, and how curiously are they com-
os'd? Come, come away, I'le go in-
stantly to the Jewellers to bespeak them.
hen took my leave, and she waited up-
me to the Door, with many Acknow-
gments of my Generosity, professing
self to be my Servant at command.
arried the Rings to the Gentleman of
Horse, who staid hard by, and ta-
ke him into the Coach we shar'd the
try, and so ended my Courtship. I
n perceiv'd that they, who pretend
have an Affection to these kind of
omen, do it not so much out of Love,
because it is the Fashion to have a Mis-
I blam'd his ill Conduct, and ad-
ded,

ded, that my Love succeeded better ~~in~~ be in a me, for I was smitten with a Damness to where there was no danger of these Inmannet reagues ; if she allows me any Fav^r of a dive it is purely Kindness, said I, for Cor^elf wet, touness hath not taught her to disseimbuff disfo if she seems to disoblige me it is not ^{and saying} of any Contempt, but only to keep ^{went away} Decorum, which is required in m^{ost} following Women, and I have Hopes she has ^{being ful} cret Inclination for me, though she ^{ne} had do seem to conceal it ; but I have no occay with his H to entertain any infamous Jealou The m judging my self secure in her Merits ^{which I} Virtue, which will not be easily ^{seem'd to} quish'd.

While Doctor *Cenudo* very much pion, thased himself at the Recital of this his and of throus Enterprize, which he did at the edge all cnest Desire of his Friend call'd *Don Felix* & was expecting when he wou'd commive in the it, he observ'd he was fallen asleep. Taster of Historian displeas'd at this Neglect, ought to knowing that he was sometimes troublation an with a Pain at his Heart, which was w'd in bei to make him faint away, pretending dainful did not think him asleep, he took a Bad been fa of Water, saying, *Bless the Man, an* of he threw it all in his Face. *Don Felix* the Gentle^d ked, and believing the Doctor judg'd Fellow,

or who be in a Swound thought it a great Happines to have found this Excuse for his Inmannerliness in sleeping in the midst of a diverting Story ; and finding himself wet, and the whole Fabrick of his Ruff disorder'd, he return'd him thanks, and saying he found himself not well, he went away, promising to return the day following. He comply'd with his Word, as being fully resolv'd not to sleep again as he had done, and the Doctor went on with his History.

The manner of my *Platonick Love*, which I had related, and the Pleasure I seem'd to take therein, confirm'd my friends and Acquaintance in their Opinion, that I was a Fool ; Men being so fond of their own Sentiments, that they edge all things ridiculous which they do not approve of ; since none pretended to move in the same Method that I did. The last of the Horse laugh'd at what he ought to have admir'd ; I cryed up the Troublation and Wariness which my Mistress was w'd in being seen by me, and prais'd her undivis'd Carriage toward me, as if they had been favours, and proper for a Woman, an of her Quality and Deportment. Felix the Gentleman of the Horse being a meridg'd Fellow, ' Well Signior Cenudo, said

50 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

‘ he, I’ll lay you a Wager, that if you
make a Visit to this scornful Lady
the same Gallantry you are now in, and
make her believe that you have great
Riches sent you by your Father from
the Indies (since she knows he is there
in a profitable Employment) she will
be complaisant and pliable, will flatten
you, and correspond with whatever
you desire. I am unwilling, said I, to
lay Wagers upon Impossibilities, however
let us go, and make Trial of it,
with all my Heart cried he, as soon
you please: We went then together
her House, and sending a Page before
give her notice I was there, the Joy
mine Eyes peep’d thro’ a low Grate, and
saw me, but did not know me, because I
was so fine; but begging leave to
her Hands she knew the Voice, and which
coming forth much surpris’d, she informed
her self by the Page of the Novelty
he, that had been fully instructed in
lying Lesson, represented me to be very
Rich, and that my Father was President
of the Canaries: Out comes the Mother
and Daughter to receive us with a Welcome
of Compliments; they were astonish’d at
my Grandeur, not knowing whether
they should stile me Honourable or Worthy
shipful; and to call me by high
Tenderne the might he took
the Diamonny Folly
ay they were for a
covetous, to escape
orner: my Hand good For
ure.

Y
hipful ; at length my Damsel determin'd
to call me her Dear ; we were seated first
in high Chairs, but she desired me to sit
down on a Cushion nigh her, with much
Tenderness, and many Endearments, that
she might have the stricter View of me ;
she took me by the Hands, and admir'd
the Diamond Rings on my Fingers ; but
my Folly assisted me so far, that I did not
say they were at her Service, for it is bet-
ter for a Man to be counted a Fool than
covetous, and so I had the good Fortune
to escape the latter, by being thought the
former : She with an engaging Smile put
my Hand into hers, not to tell me my
good Fortune, but thinking she had me
sure.

Ever and anon the Gentleman of the
House, whom I call'd Cozen, look'd at
me, which brought fresh Blushes into my
Cheeks to think what a Tryal I had
made ; I ask'd for Water, they brought
some, with Variety of Sweet-meats,
but they were all soure to me, yea I was
asham'd, that I did not take what she
brought me in her Hands, which the Bag-
age thought proceeded from my Sottish-
ness and want of Wit. We then took
leaves, having been handsomly treat-
she earnestly desiring me to see her
again

again that Night, and that I would not be a Stranger at her House, nor with my new Fortune forget my former Love of her ; with these and such like Follies as accompanied us to the Door (a new Favour in Ladies) the Mother relating my Cozen, whilst we were talking of our selves, the great Quality and Fortune of her Daughter, with other Matters which favour'd of Matrimony.

When we came home my Cozen had no Mercy on me, but persecuted me with his Scoffs and Reproaches ; and I was much ashamed and astonish'd to find Women were alike, that I renounc'd Love, plainly discovering that her former Disdain proceeded from my Poverty, and her present Favours not out of a Respect to my Person, but only to Fortune, and could not enough abhor her Folly for pleasing my self with her Scorns, and in glorying that I was disdained without her. However I visited them sometimes by Night, in my embroider'd Cloak, Hat edg'd with Gold Lace, and my gild'd Sword, which all belong'd to the Gentleman of the Horse, who encourag'd me to prosecute my Revenge. I enjoyed civil Freedoms, and received many Favours of them for a great while ;

without reflecting upon the Folly of Women, who only having an Opinion that I was Rich, though I had never given them any thing, but received many Kindnesses from them, yet valued me so highly, and never knew how to make enough of me.

By this time the cunning Gipsy thought I was over head and Ears in Love ; for they could not imagine that such a Fool as I could lye and dissemble with so much Confidence ; now though I perceived she had some kind of Affection for me, yet I imagin'd all her Pretensions were only to the false Riches which she supposed were brought me from the Indies ; and said within my self, how can these Women be so vain to love that which is not, nor cannot be, and despise the Person of a Man which hath Being and Value ; I began to contemn her, and spoke to her without thofe ridiculous Commendations I formerly used. I remembred she was weak, Flesh and Bloud as well as my self, Family glibarity having made me consider her more nearely. I learn'd how necessary it is for a Man to be a Fool to enjoy his Love ; for whilst I observ'd that Respect which any discreet Men use in that Affair I got nothing but Wind and Smoak ; but after I

54 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

became a real Fool in the Opinion of the World, I obtain'd what I would. Men are the occasion of making Women proud and disdainful, who believe themselves to deserve all the Flatteries we bestow upon them, and when they have wash'd, paint'd, and put on a new Face, and see their own handy Work in a Looking-Glass, they believe they brought the white red out of their Mother's Bellies, or else they would never overvalue themselves as they do: The best way is to despise them, for he that adores them, takes Arms against himself.

Several Nights afterward when I made my Visits I found divers other Gallants in her Company, but never shewed any Signs of Jealousy, which made her more ardently wish that I were her Husband. Nay my Covetousness too did me Service for listning once, I heard her Mother say, " Daughter, this Man is for our turn; he is one that knows how to keep his state, and not to spend it among lewd Women; for tho' he loves thee tenderly, he hath never shewn any Signs of Prodigality. He's none of those huffing Sparks, who, with a little Sharpish, and a few stale Compliments and Flatteries, which they have learn'd

of others, like Parrots, without knowing what they say, think they are as wise as *Solomon*, and at the same time suffer themselves to be sprung'd upon, and bubble'd by any indigent Fellow, that pretends to admire 'em.

I, having been so often near the Fire, began to grow warm, having a small Passion for my Mistress, and began to speak of Marriage; I had no sooner uttered that Word, but she thought she had Possession of all the Wealth of *India*, and presented me with Pearls, Diamonds, Chrystals, yea Silver, and Gold, and thought them all too little for me. My Love hereupon began to cool, and such a number of foolish Toys glutted me, though another would have eaten his Fingers ends that he might have received so many Favours; but divers Men have different Palates, and mine was so squeamish, that I utterly abandon'd all my Pretensions to her, and never visited her more.

On the one side of *Madrid* is a pleasant Walk call'd the *Prado*, whether the Gallants and Ladies resort every Evening in the Summer time to take the Air; the Place being adorn'd with many curious Fountains and Rows of high Trees, and

56 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

is water'd at Three or Four a Clock wherew^t
the Afternoon by Porters at the Ch^tions.
of the City. My Master intending to
thither on^t Sunday in more State t amorou
usual, because the King was to co is your
down that day to the Dukes Garden; your ob
therefore commanded all the Servants
his House, as well his Lady's as his o
to wait upon him; I went among the r
and coming to the Convent of the M
rites, I saw Two Women veil'd with w
v'd Smoak and Clouds of Silk, so t
were their Hoods and Mantles. T
look'd earnestly upon me, and I, w
could never shake off my amorous E
mour, though I had met with so ma
Misadventures in Pursuit of it, was mi
tily pleas'd, supposing they were tak
with my Person or Carriage; I began
walk more stately, and let my Ma
Coach pass forward with the Pages, e
deavouring not to appear to be one
them; but that was impossible, becau
carried a Badge of Slavery upon my Ba
which was surely an Invention of F
fer, since my Livery proclaim'd to all
World that I was not my own Man b
in Servitude to another: I curst my
ftiny that made me so much a Favour
with the Ladies, and had not given



running
proper
to those
held the
intently,
sighing;
Girl sigh
be censu

whe

lock wherewithal to answer their Expectations.

I drew nearer to them, looking very amorously, and saying, Ladies the Prize is yours, you have already conquer'd your obsequious Adorer ; and so was



running on with such Courtship, as is not proper to be us'd to civil Women, but to those that are loose and wanton ; they held their Peace, and view'd me more intently, one whispering the other and sighing ; as I live, said I to my self, the Girl sighs for me ; let not the Poets then be censur'd for making a Lady in their

Plays fall in love with a handsome Gentleman at first sight, since a young Lady stands sighing for me, a poor Page in the Skir Livery, who have for Four Years p trotted up and down the Streets of Madrid. I thinking Shame detain'd the from answering, I began to speak more lewdly, shewing what an excellent Faculty I had therein. They still continu silent, for which I the more admir'd them judging it a wonderful thing that Two Women should be able to hold the Tongues so long. At length the airy of them putting out her Hand from under her Veil, which might have affrod the Snow for Whiteness, made a Sign with it, that I should follow them to most unfrequent part of the Prado; I did so with the greatest Joy imaginab and being come to the privatest part the Grove they stood still, and she w the talking Hands made a Sign I shou come nearer, so that my Face was almost join'd to hers ; but at that Instant catching me fast by the Ear with one Hand began to maul and cuff me furiously, whilst her Companion arm'd with her Choppins, or wooden Clogs, whi she pull'd from her Feet, shour'd such Storm of Blows upon my Head, and

whole Body that they left me for dead. In
the Skirmish she that attack'd me with the
greatest Vigour discovered her Face, so
that I knew her to be the liberal Damsel
whom I had mump'd of her Jewels ; who
finding what a sham I had put upon her,
was resolved to be even with me ; they
then gave many Stabs to my Honour, and
dignified me with more Names and Ti-
tles than are given to the Eastern Empe-
rors, calling me Rogue, Rascal, Villain,
Thief, Pimp, Cheat, Impostor, and what
not ; I would have made my Defence,
but it was impossible, for they rail'd so
violently that they would not suffer me
to utter a Word. The Storm being a lit-
tle allayed, I fell on my Knees, desiring
them to excuse the Errors of Love, and
us'd some other Arguments, but my Hu-
mility would not save me, for they re-
turned to drub me afresh, and at last
went away wearied, but not satisfied,
threatning that I should not come off so
cheap, for they would have my Bloud.
This Combate with the Choppius utterly
untwisted my Love, and I abhor'd the Place
too, where I had suffer'd such Persecution.
It happened a few Days after, that
my Master going into the Countrey, as
he often did, the *Duenna*, or Governess,
called

60 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

call'd me aside, and gave me a Billet string in
deliver to my Mistresses Gallant, charhey mif-
ing me to be very watchful that Nigr a dece-
because the Count or Nobleman was heir Cri-
come to wait on her, and he was to oJoy and t-
the Door to him ; I promised to do it, the Coun-
ried the Nose to the Count, and recPort of h-
ved for my Reward a Chain of Gold, to her,
binding me with such glorious Fettermeaning
promote his Interest ; for though I ther, wh-
turally lov'd Freedom, and was ill to carry t-
mor'd, abhorring to be concern'd in ato consid-
base Practices ; yet this shining Metthe Duce
which being Son of the Sun, feems with the
have an univerſal Empire over all Pathat Nig-
of the Globe, softned my rough TempPresents
and subjected me to the meanest Drufented he-
gery.

I had car-

Night came on, and my Folly secured me from the great Danger wherein I cesaid I, a-
tainly was ; for I had a foolish Inclination to make my Lady sensible that I wacrossing
acquainted with her Intrigues, and thadded, f-
her Honour was in my Hands, thinkinterfeited
I should thereby gain her Favour, and demure
that she wculd esteem and treat me wiHonour
more Kindness, since her Reputation wayour T-
so highly concern'd in it. And sureftize you
though the Pleasures of Love are so inwhich d-
chanting, yet there must needs be somgreat Ra-

Stim

let ~~String~~ in it, when Persons consider that
they must be Slaves to a malicious Page,
Nigra a deceitful Governess, for concealing
was ~~heir~~ Crimes; I came then with much
joy and told her, how extreamly pleas'd
the Count was to find himself so near the
Report of his Happiness. This was News
to her, nor could she apprehend the
meaning of it, till after I had informed
her, who gave me the Note I mentioned
to carry to the Count; she began at length
to consider that this was an Impolite of
the *Duenna's*, who had made a Bargain
with the Nobleman to sell her Honour
that Night, being greedy of the Rich
Presents which the amorous Count pre-
sented her with: She inquired whether

I had carried any Messages to that Noble-
man before; A great number Madam,
I said I, and all by order of the *Duenna*:
She was much surpris'd at what I said,
I was crossing and blessing her self, and then
added, so, so, are you he then, that coun-
terfeited your self a Fool, and she the
demure Hypocrite; well, well, upon my
Honour I'll acquaint your Master with
your Tricks, who knows how to cha-
ractize you according to your Merits; after
which dreadful Words she retired in a
great Rage to her Bed-chamber.

I was astonished to find what a ~~all~~ Girdle, and
the *Duenna* had put upon me, since ~~or~~ Stripes,
~~a Duenna~~ was able to fool a Man so ; ~~all~~ bedding,
they are always treacherous and unfa-~~ng to bring~~
ful, no People being more deceitful ~~was so innic~~
they, and which vexes me most, ~~is~~ done with a Pretence of Sanctity and ~~I then w~~
votion ; they study only to betray ~~with Inten~~
Daughter whom the Mother hath left ~~but found~~
their Governance ; or the new man ~~veral other~~
Wife whom her Husband hath left un ~~own Char~~
their Care ; how brittle is the Honour ~~prevent h~~
Women, who though never so modest ~~or the Imp~~
never so well married, yet are debauched ~~Bed since~~
by the Avarice of a *Duenna*, who judging ~~prevented~~
all her Sex to be as vicious as herself ~~for Vexat~~
had been so long as she was able, imagine ~~sider how~~
they oblige them, when they are doing ~~are, and~~
them the greatest Injury, and promising ~~give to~~
lewd Assignations in their Names. I ~~faithful o~~
resolv'd to revenge my self upon the *Duenna*, for it being late, and she gone ~~ceive the~~
Bed betimes, designing to rise at Two ~~my Mis~~
the Morning, which was the Hour ~~and thou~~
had appointed the Count to come, I披上 ~~ness of~~
on a Farendine Cloak, entered her Chamber, ~~them, b~~
and came to her bed-side where she lay alone; then rustling my Silks, ~~So unfo~~
speaking with an hoarse Voice, as if I ~~Friend b~~
had been the Count, I took my buckle ~~fordid C~~
Girdle,

Girdle, and with hard Words, and harder Stripes, chastized her to my Content, ledging, she had abused me in pretending to bring me into her Lady's Bed who was so innocent and chaste a Person.

I then went down to the Street-door, with Intent to send back the Nobleman, but found that the Keys of that and several other Doors between that and her own Chamber were carried to her, to prevent her being betrayed by my Folly, or the Impiety of her *Duchess*. I went to Bed since I perceived the Intreague was prevented, but could not sleep a Wink for Vexation at the Accident, and to consider how uncertain the Judgments of Men are, and how little Credit we ought to give to our own Eyes though the most faithful of our Senses: I had seen her receive the Presents the Count sent her, but my Mistress knew not they were his; and thought she was obliged to the Kindness of a Lady of her Acquaintance for them, by whose Hand they came to her. So unfortunate is Beauty, that even a Friend becomes a Traitor sometimes, for so did Gain. Let not the unhandsome then complain of their ill Fortune, but consider that Beauty is subject to many Infelicities and Troubles, and with a few vain

vain Flatteries has a Mixture of ~~son who~~
real Sorrows.

C H A P. VI.

*He goes to a new Master, and pi
the Examination of a Crew of Sh
Doctors at Salamanca.*

I rise next Morning as soon as 'twas ~~Ding a Ho~~
being fearful I should be ~~sour~~ your Lor
maul'd by my Master, when his Wife ~~said to m~~
acquainted him with the Affair, and ~~w~~ Lordship
to the Count, who was just going to ~~pe~~ cts you
complaining of his Head ; I pretend ~~Scarc~~
my self extreamly troubled, and desir ~~man~~ (w
that his Servants might retire, sp ~~took me~~ the Hou
thus to him ; ' I think it much unbec ~~the Hou~~
' ing a Person of your Lordship's Fig ~~came wi~~
' to treat a Lady of Quality with so mu ~~carrying~~
' Neglect ; I come Sir to acquaint ~~y~~ had leve
' from my Mi~~rress~~, that you had f~~whip~~, S
' Entrance into her House, having alre~~Villain~~,
' dy gain'd the same in her Breast, y~~that~~ yo
' you did not appear at the Hour ~~ap~~ my Lad
' pointed ; your Lordship ought to ha~~it was o~~
' abandon'd Play for one Night at lea~~and the~~
' how fond soever you are of it, and no i~~nto th~~
' to have put such an Affront upon a Per~~Name~~)

son who has so great an Esteem for you, and whose Slighting of her, for ought I know, may cost her her Life. By the Order of Knighthood, with which I am honoured, replyed the Count, I staid at her Door with the utmost Anxiety from Two a Clock in the Night till this Morning ; then your Lordship had ill Luck, said I, for I stood waiting for you at the Door till One a Clock, and hearing a Horse stop, thinking it had been your Lordship, I opened the Door, and said to my self, it is the Count, your Lordship may come in, for my Lady expects you with the utmost Impatience.

Scarce had I spoke, when the Gentleman (who was my Master) alighting, took me by the Arm, and thrust me into the Houfe, commanding a Servant that came with him to lock the Door, and carrying me into his Chamber, after he had severely disciplin'd me with an Horse-whip, Sirrah, said he, you Rascal, Pimp, Villain, tell me truly what Count it was that you expected ; indeed Sir, said I, my Lady knows nothing of the matter ; it was only a Plot contrived between me and the Duenna, to let a Nobleman into the Houfe (telling him a feigned Name) who having corrupted our Fidelity

lity by Money and Gifts, we promise him on His let him in this Night ; hereupon he se where me, making me swear to keep the auation, a ter secret, and went to chastize the Dis invent na, and know from her the whole new Mast nes. Your Lordship therefore his Gent much Danger if she should discover point's Fa true Name and Quality, as I doubt thousand will.

Thou say'st true, said the Count, 'tis very perilous to trust a Man's Seed comp with a Woman, and I doubt I shall bestow ruin'd ; for her Husband, being a Noxcoimb Aragonian, will endeavour to finde in Be out and kill me, and having Justification o his side I am the more apprehensive old ready Resentment ; so that I think it ad spoke n able to absent my self from the Citye appla some time. In a few Days he put this ho woul solution in Execution, under Pretence should going to visit his Tenants, and look after and his Estate ; leaving me with a Brotheve, and his, an Ecclesiastick, who was ge Vulga shortly to *Salamanca*, on whom I wine, De ed in quality of a Page, wherein by mey will, Folly I made my Dilcretion appear; od or ii that my being a Fool was not only beperior Bi ficial to me, but my feigning my selfat all th be one likewise ; for who could be recording foolish to imagine, that the Count wobers are

misome on Horseback upon such an Enter-
-prise wherein Gallants use the greatest
-he auition, and Privacy possible ; however
-ne Dis invented Story of mine procur'd me
-ple new Master much to my Advantage :
-the his Gentleman was the second of the
-verount's Family, and had about Sixteen
-oud thousand Ducats of Ecclesiastical Reve-
-ues coming in yearly ; yet had more
-ant, bly than Money : I will not stop here,
-Sead complain of the Malice of Fortune,
-shair bestowing on a mere Blockhead and
-a Noxcomb Sixteen Thousand Ducats a
-findear in Benefices, and it may be the Re-
-stication of being wiser than I ; for he
-ve odd ready Money to oblige, and though
-ads spoke never so foolishly, yet his Words
-Cityere applauded as Oracles : Oh Riches !
-thisho would think, that being so uncertain,
-tenou should purchase to your Owners such
-okalory and Honour, both while they are
-othaive, and also to future Ages : But let
-s ge Vulgar complain of their bad For-
-I wine, Destiny, their ill Stars, or what
-by mey will, I, who am satisfied that all the
-ear; od or ill we receive proceeds from the
-ly beperior Powers, cannot but acknowledge
-y selfat all things are distributed to Mortals
-d be cording to Reason and Justice ; and if
-t wohers are not of the same Opinion, let
-them

them blame their own Want of Penetration, or their Pride, to question the Judgment of all Matters here below. Blind Man should complain of the Darkness of the Sun, would you not say, Fault was in his Eyes? Why then should we accuse the Sun of Injustice, of Neglect and Partiality, since we our selves only are faulty.

May we not think, that my Master, who was born a Fool, had more need than those Sixteen Thousand Ducats than any otherwise he would have received. Two grievous Detriments, and might thought to have been unjustly dealt with. One, in coming into the World naked, and without being furnish'd with the Principal Goods, which are Wisdom and Understanding; and another, that he would have been exposed to Want and Misery, without those Succours, which supply humane Necessities; so that there appear'd great Equity in the Business, since he had not Wit to provide for himself, he should have Wealth to answer that great Defect. But I, who am a free Thinker, and weigh every thing in the Ballance of Reason, though by the Injury of ill Tongues, and Envy of bad People I am reckoned a Fool, do not thin-

my self altogether an Idiot, but am end-
ed with such Discretion, that I value
not vain Riches, as judging them more
proper for those that have less Wit than
self.

The Count had given his Brother my
New Master such a Character of my Mo-
stility, Carefulness and Secrecy, that I was
very easy in his Service, and in Confi-
dence of my good Qualities he employed
me only in matters of his Pleasure ; he
had also acquainted him with my Inno-
cence and Simplicity, and my supercili-
ous Frown confirm'd him therein ; so that
the first Frolick he had, after we arriv'd
at Salamanca, was to make himself and
his Friends merry with my good Humour,
as he call'd it, which he added, was not
without pleasant Conceits ; they design'd
to discover their Knowledge by my Igno-
rance ; but I made it appear that I knew
many things, of which they were igno-
rant.

One Night my Master having invited
several of his Friends to an Entertain-
ment ; while they were making merry,
out a Dozen of their Servants got into
Room by themselves, furnish'd with
Beds, Caps, and Gowns, like a Con-
clave of Doctors, with Trumpets, Ket-
tle-

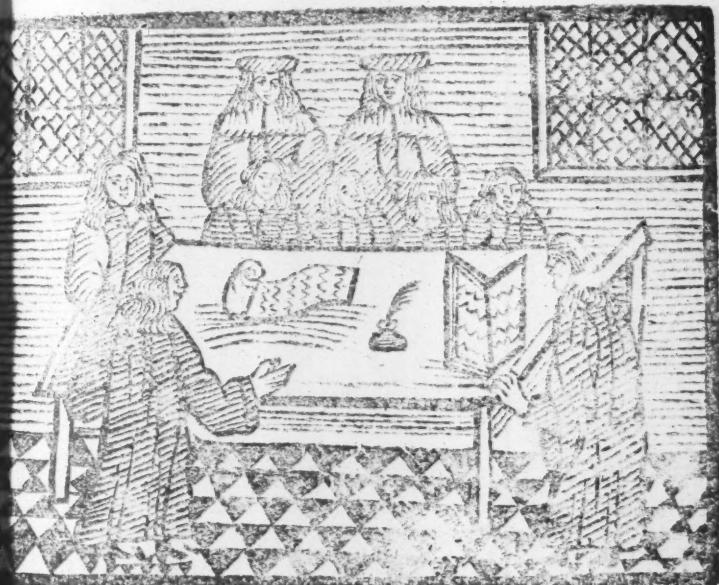
tle-Drums, and other Musick ; they then sent a Message to my Master, on whom I was waiting, acquainting him, That in the University of Salamanca, was a ancient laudable Custom, that they shou'd make a Tryal of the Wit and Ability of every Person who came to learn at you Faculty there, the Neglect whereof had occasioned many Inconveniencies ; they dispenced with his Worship, rather than they garded of the good Opinion they had entertain'd in his Favour ; but that they much suspected the Deficiency of his Servant *Pedro Cenudo*, and desir'd leave that he might come to Examination : With all my Heart, replyed my Master, and thanking these Sham-Doctors that they would honour his Lodging, he receiv'd them in a spacious Room, where all things were prepar'd for the Ceremony.

The Doctors sate down in the Order that they thought proper as to Superiority ; and after one of them had informed the Cabal at large of the Occasion of their Assembling, there came Two Mace-Bearers and set me in the middle of the Hall, upon a little Bench with a lighted Flambeau on both sides on me, that a might be Witnesses of my Ignorance.

Several

D. W.
F. Lov.
D. W.
F. Pla.

Several of the Doctors questioned me
about divers Matters, which with my
Answers I took in Writing to display their
Wisdom and my Weakness; these I have
shut down. Dialogue wise, where D. shall
stand for Doctor, and F. for Fool; where-
you may discover how little Credit is
given to the Opinion of Doctors,
who often count them Fools that are wi-
der than themselves.



The Fool's Examination.

D. Which is the most discreet Folly?
F. Love.
D. Which is the most entertaining Folly?
F. Play.

D. Which

72 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

D. Which is the most excusable Folly?
F. Ambition.

D. How may a Fool cease to be so?
F. By knowing that he is so.

D. How shall he know that he is so?
F. By discoursing with wise Men.

D. What hath a Man need of to become a Wife?
F. To be modest and teachable.

D. Why are there so many Fools in the World?
F. Because no Body thinks himself of no Use.

D. To what Science are you inclin'd?
F. To all.

D. Are you able to learn all?
F. Do you know how to teach me all?

D. They are all taught in this University.
F. If they are all taught, why may not they all be learnt?

D. The Life of Man is too short for such an Undertaking.
F. Why should we not then endeavour to lengthen it?

D. How can that be?
F. By refraining from the Pleasures of Love, the bewitchings of Play, the Follies of Ambition, Voluptuousness in eating or Drinking, and the Madness of Covetousness; these are the Methods by which our Life would be lengthened,

are much shorter, because we do not live
by the Rules of Nature.

D. Few Men are capable of more than one
Science ; and therefore the University hath
ordained that we should make Tryal of every
ones Capacity, and Instruct him in that Sci-
ence to which he shall answer most happily.

F. This is Madness, to teach me what
I understand already : Instruct me rather
in what I do not know. However, in re-
gard we must conform to the humour of
the World, I am contented to be farther
examin'd upon this Subject. Let's hear
your Questions ?

D. Will you Learn the Law ?

F. I would gladly be a Lawyer if there
was any thing to be Learnt ?

D. I don't understand you.

F. The Law is nothing else but Reason,
which guides us to follow only what is Just,
and the Plow Man governs himself by Rea-
son, unless some Passion or Affection hinder
him : So I find there is too much Law
written and learnt, which obscures both
Reason and Justice : so that when a poor
Country Man goes to advise with a Lawyer,
he declares to him plainly the Reason and
Equity of his Cause, the Lawyer only per-
plexes the Cause, and confounds the plain
letter of Fact with his Quirks and Glosses,
of some old worm eaten Law Book.

74. *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

D. But if you were a Judge, there is no conce-
such Subtlety in that Office.

F. Why? Do not I observe every day D. Poss-
that the Opinion of one Judge is contrar-
dicted by another, which proceeds either F. As
from Passion or Ignorance; and I am no Years.
for an Imploym't in which there are but D. Do
Extreams.

D. Would you be a Physician?

F. I am not very fond of feeling the like t
Pulses of the Female Sex, and yet I cou-
willingly be one of that Faculty, were no qu
not for casting Waters, and inquiring ho but it is n
many Stools the Patients have had, whi D. I f
agrees not at all with my Stomach. your Life

D. I perceive then that you are inclin'd Rhetorici
be a natural Philosopher.

F. Indeed there is no Science that agrees with my Constitution like this; but I would not go to the Universities to learn it, because I find the ancient Philosophers contradicting one another in their severall Ages: and in this Age, there is so much Clamour and Dispute about their meaning, and beating your Brains all your Life time with Sophistical Arguments, because such a Philosopher said it; who were now alive, and observ'd what a noise you make about it, would tell you doubtless he never intended there should be such a

e is, so concerning a matter of so little consequence.

y da D. Possibly you may have a Fancy for Fee-
contrary:

either F. As for Poetry, I have known it many
m no Years.

e bu D. Do you understand it? I find but few
in the World that have a true Notion of it.

ng thre F. The Rules and Precepts of Poetry,
cou acquainted with, but few observe them:
ere to no question, the Art may be known,
g ho but it is not so easily practic'd.

whi D. I find then that you resolve to spend
in'd your Life among Philosophers, Historians, and
Thetoricians.

F. All these seem troublesome People to
gre me. For the Ancient Philosophers were on-
but by a parcel of Idle Fellows that strowl'd a-
leas bout from one good Dinner, and one Ta-
phewern to another, whereby they liv'd Merri-
ever y, and bred good blood; and sometimes let
mu all a witty Sentence or two, which many a
near Man well warm'd with Wine, utters by Do-
Lifizens. Now the sottish Mob of those Ages,
cau counted all their Sayings to be Oracles.
ere h Some Years after, an Ingenuous Man find-
e yo ng these Sentences to be in great Estima-
otje on with the People, Polisbeth and Pub-
uch a sheth them to Posterity, with the name

76 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

of the Druiken Coxcomb that uttered them : and others that succeeded him finding them trim'd up, and had in Veneration for their Antiquity, they quote them with as much Authority as if they had been Ordained by a General Council though a Merry-Andrew often utters some things more Ingenious, and more to the purpose.

I am a Man, who when I get a great deal of Money, hear good News, or have hopes of obtaining the Favour of my Mistress, speak more witty Sentences in a day, than these old doting Philosophers did in a Year, and at an hundred Entertainments ; wherein they were treated with the best Wines, capable of Elevating the most stupid Genius ; and I should value myself for my Ingenuity, were not the World so full of Wise Men who are so desirous to be admired that they would disesteem me, if it were but for wearing a ragged Gown : For in this Age good Cloaths are counted signs of a good Wit, as if some dull Jades were not well harness'd. The other day I met a Physician, a Friend of mine, and asking him when he would clear the World of Sick People, he replied, when he had got Money enough to Buy him a Mule ; as if the Mule had been to feel the Pulse,

Pulse, and cast the Water. (Observe by the way, that the Spanish Physicians, when they go to visit their Patients, always ride upon Mules.)

As for your Historians, they are the most mischievous People in the World, being all for Battle, Murder, and Sudden Death: and if at any time they relate matters of Peace, they pass over them as quickly as a Cat over Fire Coals. I account them People of an ill Palate, who seem so much pleased in Painting out an Army of Cowardly white-liver'd Fellows knocking one another in the Head, and extolling a Barbarous General or Marshal for his great Courage, though guilty of the most horrid Ravages. Is not this the token of an Hellish Nature? I cannot meet with a Prudent and Peaceable Historian fit for my Conversation; for if a Man discourses with one of these Furies, he finds him arm'd Cap-a-pe when he least thinks of it. Thou Historian of *Lucifer*, are there no Transactions of Peace which deserve everlasting Remembrance? Are Peaceable, Deserving, Virtuous Men, to be past over in Silence, and all their Worthy Actions to be forgotten? I have fancied a thousand times, that they purposely describe the Thunders and Ratlings of a Battle, only

78 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

that they may bring in their Pompous and flattering Orations.

Rhetorick I call not an Art, but meer trifling ; for to perswade in speaking what needs any greater Art, than for Man to utter his Mind in plain words. When I see a Merchant or Shop-keeper selling his Goods, who being ignorant of Rhetorick, has the Skill to perswade his Customer, that a Castor is a Beaver Hair, or that Stockins of Hair and Worsted are Toledo Silk : I scorn all Rhetorick, and him that takes pains to Learn it, or thinks it needful in the World.

D. Now I find we begin to understand one another, and 'tis evident you come to learn Astrology.

F. Heaven preserve me in my Senses since that Science which pretends to make us conversant with the Stars favours plainly of Madness ; and yet suppose we should Calculate a Nativity purfuant to the Rule of thosse Star-gazers, is it not the greatest Folly to pry into our future Fortune, and to feel our Evils thrice over, at the same time defrauding our selves of the Pleasure of good Events ? We are thrice sensible of our Misfortunes by this Art ; afraid before they happen, griev'd when they come upon us, and distract'd at the remembrance

as an of them. Though I must likewise acknowledge, that the Joy we conceive upon good Events, is sometimes allay'd, and our hopes aking frustrated of what we most desire. The for other Arts, as Musick, Geometry, Arith- words metick, and Cosmography, do not agree with my Cholerick Humour, for not apprehending them without much Study and Difficulty I tire out the Patience of him that would instruct me in them.

D. Well Sir, the College have thought fit to give you a longer time to deliberate what Science best suits your Genius; in the mean time while your Folly continues, we condemn you to be a Servant, as being the most proper Employment for Fools.

My Friend, who was call'd *Don Felix*, admired and applauded the Fools Examination; observing that the Doctors counted all these Wise Sayings, Follies, only because I did not answer as they suppos'd I would have done. So that I find Folly amongst Men, is no other than a contradiction of Opinions; and we account a Man a Fool who has not the same taste of things which we have: But let us remember that we are no Angels, and have many things in common with the Brutes, and that it is most certain we know nothing for certain. When I saw this Assembly of

Grave Doctors, Laughing and Flouting,
what deserv'd Applause, I began from th
day to despise every Man that was call'd
Doctor, judging them all to be as Foolis
as these, and believing that flat Caps an
Gowns did not make Men Learned no
Discreet. Nay, so much did I abhor th
name of all Doctors, that falling sick o
a violent Defluxion of Rheum, which
was afraid would have strangled me,
would not follow the Doctors Directio
to be instantly let Blood ; I thought it to
much that they often take away a Man
Reputation, by pretending he has som
soul Disease, and was unwilling they shoul
take away my Life. Two days after I re
cover'd, occasion'd by my Folly, in no
making use of the Doctor ; for had I obey
ed mine it had been my Death, if it b
certain what Physicians generally affirm
that there is nothing more dangerous tha
bleeding in cold Ditiemps.

I went afterwards to hear the Reading
in the University, as that College of Fool
had enjoyn'd me, but found it was all bu
Folly, and so spent the time I should have
wasted in those Readings, (which only
treated of the Dreams and Thefts of fee
or such an ancient Philosopher) in per
sing one Book or other in my own Lodg
ing.

ing, composed in a clearer Stile, and with much more Elegancy. Who would imagine that my Folly should contribute to make me Learned? Yet you find it made me a Scholar, and freed me from the Impertinence and Disquiet of the Schools.

C H A P. VII.

He proves Treacherous to his Master, in the matter of his Amours; and engages him in a Quarrel, which obliged them to depart from Salamanca.

MY Master finding I was so little affected to the Schools, gave me an Employment which remov'd me many Leagues from them: He had deluded a handsome Young Wench by the Charms of his Gold, to comply with his Amorous inclinations; and being Jealous, as he had great reason to be, in regard he was very hard favour'd, and cold to Extremity, he made me her Guardian, supposing that I who appeared such a dull insipid Fellow, would give him no cause to suspect my Loyalty and Fidelity, being the more confirm'd therein by the Severity of my Countenance, the Gravity of my Pace, and the Slowness of my Speech.

He kept this nice piece of Goods in an House, accompanied only by an Old Matron, a Young Servant Maid, and my self, who was to be her Guard and Supervisor. Here he Din'd, Supt, and Slept, and believ'ing that I kept as strict a watch over her, as if like *Argus*, I had an hundred Eyes, he Banish'd all Suspicion, and thought her as secure as if he had always carried her in his Pocket. I now imagin'd my self in an Enchanted Palace ; for without taking care of any thing, the Tables were furnish'd every day at Dinner and Supper with all Varieties of Dainties, by the Management of my Maffer who minded nothing else.

I cannot much blame such Women as seem pleas'd with the kind of Gallants whose Understandings being weak, are not able to divert them by witty Conversation ; they therefore endeavour to make them amends by costly Entertainments and being also insensible of any Defects in the frail Sex, are more constant in their Love, and less Subject to desert them whereas a Man of Sense, having his Mind free, flies from one Divertisement to another, and is so Volatile in his Amours, that a Woman cannot have so great a Passion for him as for the other ; therefore we see

such Blockheads better belov'd than the other, because they Love in earnest, Sollicit in earnest, and Adore in earnest.

But that we may not envy their good Fortune, observe how it happen'd to my Master. He had been Educated Daintily under his Lady Mother, and quarrel'd often with the Maids about his Breakfast and other Fopperies, being Bred more like a young Gentlewoman than a Student; from this kind of Education, he had learn'd such a Riff Fantastical Behaviour as utterly spoil'd all his Sport. He discours'd his pretty Miss as if he had been talking to one of his Aunts, and us'd such rude bold Complements, as were in fashion in his great Grand-Mothers Days; yet not for want of Love, for he was extravagantly enamour'd of her, but from a natural Stupidity and Constraint. With this Treatment, the Breast of the Lady was become as Cold as Ice; and no wonder, since Women are as the Moon is with the Sun: for as she receives all her Light from that Vivifying Gallant, so Ladies have the greatest kindnes for those Lovers from whom they receive the warmest Entertainments. To think that they will love thee if thou art frigid, is meer Folly: thou mayst make them Rich, but never fond of thee, nor really,

ally kind to thee ; if that be thy Condition too much thou wert better turn Fryar and live in a these G Cell, and not Court Females with Rheum vils ; so and Cathars : for though many great Men are mix think their Nobility secures them, and that their Ladies have no reason to be unfaith ful to them ; yet it often happens, that their Gentlemen, Stewards, or Coach-men, are more Belov'd and Valu'd than themselves. This was the Case of my Master, for notwithstanding all his Sollicitude and Study to please and treat his Mistress, yet I being Younger had her Heart : the Familiarity that had past between us, making her sensible that my Deserts were better than my Masters. What reason have I then to complain of Ill Fortune, being an Impudent Traytor to my Master by having the Reputation of a Fool ? I enjoy sixteen thousand Duckets a Year, which from another's hand, I spend in my own Delights. These and other Adventures of no less Importance, happen'd to me at Salamanca, which I purposely omit, to relate the end of my Courses, which were as Foolish as the beginning.

The Poets feign, that when Jupiter had Beautified the World with such Variety of Curiosities, and Accommodated Mankind with so many Blessings, to prevent Mens

too much doating upon them, he blended these Goods with a certain mixture of Evils ; so that the Dignities of Great Men, are mixt with the Cares and Troubles of managing them. The Felicity of Wit, with the persecution of Envy ; Men of Merit, are vext with Poverty ; Rich Misers with wretched Covetousness : At length observing that Men seem'd to take most Delight in Love, he imbibter'd the same with Jealousie, which is doubtless one of the worst of humane Infelicities. This was my unhappy Condition ; for the foolish Girl was visited, and seem'd well pleas'd with the Courtship of a Gentleman of the City, who appeared very Great with his Large Ruff, Gold Chain, and Plush Cloak, as the fashion then was. Now though I was not insensible of my own Merits, yet I much doubted the constancy of the Wench, whose Eyes were dazzled with the sight of so much Gallantry ; she being already tired with my Conversation which she had so long enjoy'd. I perceiv'd then, that Women for want of Prudence, slight and undervalue Men of the Brightest Parts and Abilities : I envied the genteel Ruff, thinking that every hole therein was a discharge of Artillery against that Fortress ; and curst the Students Habit which I was obliged to wear,

86. *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

wear, as judging it the occasion of my being slighted by her : I often threatned to acquaint my Master with her Conduct, but she laugh'd at me, assuring her self that would keep her Failings secret for fear she should publish my Treachery. Thus perceiving my self Jealous, I thought it an ill Omen, and began to doubt that I stood on the threshold of Discretion, and was again becoming Wife ; rememb'ring the Maxim of *Carpio* the famous Spanish Poet.

*The Man whose Breast, no Jealous Passions swell,
And yet pretends his Heart's Loves Sacrifice,
Is either Foolish, or else Loves too well ;
Because Distrust declares a Man is Wife.*

Accordingly, I doubted some ill Luck would befall me because I now became Wife, and could not forget that at all times when I ceas'd to be a Fool, it occasion'd me a great deal of Trouble and Vexation. Possibly you may wonder that I was sometimes Wife, and other while Foolish ; and may Maliciously censure me for a Dismember, and I could wish it were no worse. Malicious Friend ! if thou think'lt that the generality of Mankind are not so, thou art a Fool ; for the Wisest Man is sometimes guilty of Folly, and reckons that some Ex-

trava-

travagancies have the appearance of Gallantry, and set off his other Actions; when we hear a Man hath accomplish'd his Design, we must not always think him Discreet; and when he miscarries in his Projects, he is not for that to be accounted a Fool, because both these might happen by Chance, and an arrant Fool may hit upon something very advantagious to him because he could do no otherwise; and suffered himself to be led by his Fortune, his Wisdom being no ways Accessary thereto.

The ill Pretages I had when I became Wife, accomplish'd their Threatnings; for bad Auguries are like the People of Aragon, who will sooner Renounce their God than their Revenge. I found my self disquieted on every side, If I thought of renewing my Love, Discretion instantly reprehended me, and said, there is no room for thee; Another hath interpos'd with his great Ruff, and large bulky Plush Cloak: If I should have given way to my Sentiments, and repaired my Injury with Vengeance, I was afraid it would be to my Confit, being forc'd to be silent, or else I must Dye; and yet I must of force Dye if I held my Tongue. So possess'd was I with Anger, and so restrain'd by Fear, that all my past Pleasures were my present

Tor-

Torment. Wanton Love is not for Vertuous Persons, none but Lew'd and Villainous Men are engag'd in those Affairs. Although there were no Law to check and deter us from these Follies, yet the ill consequences of them are enough to restrain us: and if we could remove the vain Appearances of Pleasure, we should not be bewitcht by them, but find their Deceitfulness and our own Blindness in pursuing them. In short, I determin'd to abandon her when I understood she had deserted me; and resolv'd, with the hazard of my Head, to acquaint my Master with the whole Transaction, giving him an account of the frequent Visits of the Gallant, and his Obstinacy in continuing them; adding some of my own Jealous Thoughts thereto. Upon hearing the whole matter, he was of Opinion that he must turn off his Miss, concluding for certain, that the Gentleman would not have the confidence so much as to look at her, had he not received some Encouragement. I commended his Design, but doubting I should endanger my self thereby, since if she perceived her self detected she would certainly discover me, I took occasion to inform him, that she did not in the least comply with his Desires, but that he was such an Impudent

l fellow, that she could not be rid of him. He rest'd satisfied with this, and resolv'd to fall severely upon the daring Rival.

I am sensible there was very little reason in what I said, being indeed always of a contrary Opinien ; for I believe few Men persevere in Courting a Mistress, without receiving some Favours, and having Hopes and Confidence of attaining their Desires : But mark I beseech you, how important a thing it is to be counted a Fool, since it serves to perswade Men to believe any Falshood that he shall advance. If *Plato*, and the Seven Wise Men of *Greece*, had told my Master the same Story I did, he would have suspected they design'd to banter him, and that they did it to make O'stentation of their Wit ; but hearing it from a Person who he thought had not Capacity enough to forge a Lye (as if that was so difficult a matter) he had no Suspicion that I would abuse him.

Now my Master was somewhat Cowardly and Timerous in the matter of Fighting and Bullying, and therefore arm'd all his Six Servants, like so many Lions, to guard his Body ; and coming to the Street of the *Unhappy Fair One*, we perceived the Gallant waiting with another, Muffled in their Cloaks, at the door of her House : I drew

drew near to observe which was he, without making any sign to the rest of the Detachment : I made up to him, and at the first approach gave him a handsome Cut over the Rate ; for I had two Advantages over him, one in being Injur'd, and therefore Jealous, and consequently Revengeful ; and another, that I began the Attack. The Squadron hereupon coming up, we push'd them on all sides, and having given them many dangerous Wounds, (being Seven against Two) we left them for Dead, and retir'd to our Lodgings.

C H A P. VIII.

He is made a Judge, and gives an account of his Male Administration in that Office with several other Diverting Amusements

MY Master, as I have already observed, being Wealthy, had therefore the Opinion of a Prudent Model Man ; so that the very Persons who assisted him in this Exploit blam'd his Conduct, that he should attempt the Murdering of two Gentlemen only upon my Information ; yet no body reproach'd me because I only acted as a Natural. And thus I, for

having

with having the repute of a Fool, was excus'd, because I was so; and my Master who was counted Wise suffer'd in his Reputation because of his Wisdom; when we began to cool, we seriously consulted what course here it was best to take to secure our selves, in regard the Wounded or Dead were of the best Families in the City: after several warm Debates and various Votes, my Opinion given at length prevail'd, that it would be most expedient to leave Salamanca, and to keep a good Correspondence in that City, that we might be acquainted how Affairs went. Pursuant to these Resolutions we had Mules provided the same Night; and Fear adding Wings to our Flight, we arriv'd in a few days at a Village belonging to the Count my Master's Brother, who at that time resided there. Now though he design'd not to be long Absent from Court, yet the Delicioufulness of the Place so much charri'd him, that he was unwilling to depart. This good Gentleman used all manner of Recreations, and had for that purpose, Dogs for Hunting, and likewise a Library of Valuable Books of all Sciences, for Entertaining the Contemplative Readers. His Gardens were very curious, with thick and well shaded Groves of all sorts of Trees.

In this Enchanting Place we retir'd ou
selves, without acquainting the Count with
the occasion of our coming hither: I was
am now, and ever shall be, greatly in
clin'd to the Conversation of Ladies, (tho'
I was so lately in the ready way to make
Fool of my self thereby.) I admir'd the
Rivers, Fountains, Flowers, and Fruits of
this Earthly Paradise; but yet I thought
there wanted the Soul of all, namely the
appearance of some gentle Females, who
like the Sun, might add Lustre to the Glo
ries of it; so that I soon grew weary of
this Wilderness-Solitude; yet calling to
mind the Mischiefs and Dangers which
had befallen me by being concern'd with
this brittle Ware I began to Philosophiz
and conclude that the greatest Human
Happiness was for a Man to enrich him
self with Learning and Virtue: For the
other Things make a Fair Appearance
yet they are not durable; neither will
they render a Man truly Happy; and tho'
they be pleasant in the Enjoyment, yet
Man pays twice for them; once by fear
ing that he cannot long possess them; and
then by the real Loss of them: For this
Edifice being built upon the Follies and
Fraulties of Women, is supported only
by Pillars of Glass, and must necessaril

soon fall, and thereby disappoint the Expectations of those who are most fond of them.

I took great Delight to lock up my self the Count's Library, where I past away Hours of the Day, and many of the night ; smiling at such as would divert me by inviting me to go a Hunting, to play at Billiards, or Cards ; for certainly nothing can be Pleasure to us, but what suits our Inclination. I counted Books the most discreet Company in the World, since knowing so much, they never acquaint a Man with any Thing till he inquires of them ; and being wearied with one, he has fresh Entertainment from another, I studying only for Recreation and not for Oltentation. But the time being come for our Return home from our Progress, and the Danger over, by the Recovery of the Persons we had wounded, the Count hasten'd us away ; whereupon having gain'd a General Opinion of being earned, by retiring my self alone among books, I took an Opportunity thus to scourse the Count. ' My Lord, your Honour may be very well pleas'd with this Journey, since your Brother, good Man, has no need of any farther puzzling his Brains with the Brangles of the ' Schools,

Schools ; for though his Modesty and Retiredness may seem disadvantageous to him ; yet I assure your Lordship, he has a most Profound Wit, and thoroughly digests what he Reads, having made a farther Proficiency in Learning with in Three Years than others have done in Thirty.

Near this Place is the Monastery of Irache, where he may take his Degree of Bachelor of Arts, and by continuing in this Solitude he will be diverted from following his Pleasures, so may improve daily in Knowledge, whereas if he return to Salamanca, will hazard the losing of what he has gain'd in this Retiredness. The Count approved of my Advice, and so we spent Two Years in this Solitary Life, where I learn'd enough of the Civil Law, too much of other Reading, and having the Opinion of being a Man of Letters which I confirm'd by often uttering certain Sentences of Cato, and other Philosophers, they began to call me Doctor in the Count's House, and us'd it frequently, that I was now known by no other Name than Doctor Cenudo, and while after we returning to our Centre the Court, I took my Place of Doctor if I really had been so.

and At this time His Majesty honoured a
geous Gentleman, a Friend of the Count's, with
the dignity of a *Corrigidor*, of one of the
ough most Illustrious Cities in Spain (an Officer
mad deputed by the King over most of the
with chief Towns in that Kingdom, with Pow-
der little differing from that of a Lord-May-

or: These always continue Three Years,
ery and most commonly are Lawyers.) This
begin Corrigidor was mad to be Governing, as
cont might be perceived an Hundred Leagues
be diff: For having a sufficient Estate to main-
s, and in himself according to his Quality, he
ledge wanted nothing now but Honour, and to
ra, be a Governor; and was extream ambi-
the habious of showing his Authority over the
Cour Alcaldes, or petty Judges; but dreaded
e spent to be attended with Learned *Tenientes* or
here Deputies, who would controul him, and
y, an command all. He discovered his Fears to
havim the Count, who in Conclusion propos'd
Letters by Person to him for One of the Two Of-
ng cences, extolling my Modesty and Retired-
er fagess, which suited well with the *Corrigi-
e Doctor's* Humour; nay, I was told, that a-
d it long my other Good Qualities he had
n by acquainted him that I was a Fool: Scarce
, and the Count pronounced that Word, but
Centre replied there was no Man fitter for his
Doctor purpose than my self, he having an Aver-
A
fion

sion to your Pragmatical Pedants, who would be prying too nicely into his Conduct. In short he granted him the Office on my Account, returning the Count Thousand Thanks for having recommended to him a Person so extreamly well qualified in all Respects.

Behold me now an *Alcalde* or Judge of Populous City, and observe that the Reputation of a Fool was more serviceable to me, than the Title of Bachelor or Doctor of the Civil Law. Is it then such Disgrace to be reckoned a Fool? I know an Hundred of my Acquaintance would be glad to be counted so that they might attain to my Preferment; and I am satisfied that Folly is not only a very important Quality for procuring a Man Honour and Dignity, but likewise for the Peaceable and Happy Enjoyment of them, as you will see presently.

The other Office of *Teniente* or Deputy, was given to an able, but formal Coxcomb, much wedded to the Letter of the Law, as well as to his own Humour; a Man, whose Saying upon all Occasion was, Sir, *This is Law, and I will abide by it.* This precise Gentleman was not chosen by the *Corrigidor*, but was put into the Place by the express Command of a Per-

who on of Honour, from whom our Gover-
or gain'd his Preferment. We came short-
after to the Place of our Residence,
where I soon got the knack of talking of
residents, Decrees, and other Trifles be-
longing to my Office, which the Industry
(not to say Knavery) of the Sollicitors
and Attorneys soon brought me acquaint-
ed with, who therefore moulded me as
Vax, so that I was all Complaisance, and
would deny them nothing: With this easy
temper, and winking at all their Exact-
ns and Exorbitancies I had Business e-
ough, and gained as much as might have
rv'd me and my Companion, whom they
ll'd King *Don Pedro*, because of his Gra-
tity and Zeal in executing the extremity
Justice, which made People avoid him
much as they do Virtue and Honesty.

You may laugh at my Folly if you
please, in favouring of my own Servants
and punishing of others; yet you may
keewise observe, that it is necessary
to be a Fool, even in the Administration
Offices, which require so much Pru-
dence and Discretion. True Wisdom and
Policy is to be pliable, and to comply with
the Times; for you cannot imagine that
one was willing, nor of so strong a Confi-
dence as to be sacrificed to the Malice

and Revenge of my Sollicitors and Attorneys, although I was brought up with Onions and Garlick. Here I first became sensible that Power and Authority were greater at Im-
Enemies to Virtue : I have already related how I became improv'd in the Soli-
tudes wherein I lately Resided ; how Re-
serv'd I was, what a Contemner of all sensual Delights, and Enemy to Pleasure ; but now finding my self to be a Man in Authority I was extreamly Elevated : No one knows what it is to be an ordinary Judge of a Populous City ; I thought my self a great Man, and my Head grew giddy with Honour, so that I was in great Danger of a Fall.

The first Vice I found my self guilty of was Pride ; I was sparing of my Hat wherein my Natural Frown was a great Advantage to me. To all the People of the Town I was a Lyon, but to my *guazils* a Lamb : I then abandoned the Rod of Justice, the Badge of my Office for the Follies of *Venus* ; I went the Rounds in the Night, not to apprehend Thieves and Murtherers, but to deliver up my self to She-Robbers and Murtheresses ; yet this kind of Debauchery soon became nauseous to me, I did not like the easiness of it ; none of this kind of Ca-

for me daring to refuse to comply with my
Own Humour; I was always best pleas'd where
I met with the greatest Difficulties: I aim'd
at Impossibilities, and pursued them
with the greatest Eagerness: How many
Females have I subdued with my Staff of
Authority! How many have complied
out of Fear! I am ashain'd to relate what
Pains I took to gain my Ends where I
found the Strongest Opposition; and judg'd
such Conquests only to be Honourable,
and to Crown the Conqueror. No
house denied me Entrance, tho' never so
strongly barricado'd; for I either pretend'd
that I search'd for a Criminal; or that

must examine the Matter concerning a
fact which had never been committed: I
remember I once carried away the Huf-
band of an handsome Woman Prisoner,
who I had a mind to court, upon pretence
of some Suspicion I had of him; and de-
tained him as long as I pleas'd, that he
might not hinder my free access to his
house. All these Extravagancies my Of-
ficers cryed up as Gallant Exploits; com-
mending instead of admonishing me to for-
go further such Practices; who no doubt allow
them, because all such Fellows are ge-
nerally of the same Humour, and approve
these Actions as being themselves guilt-

100 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

I was very Expensive, and thereby gain'd the Affection of the lewd part of the People of the City ; as Vintners, Inn-keepers, Gamesters, and all that licentious Rabble, who give or take away Man's Good Name as it stands with the Interest. The Gentlemen never complained of me, though they had Reason for it but were unwilling to stain their own Honour, being not faultless themselves, publishing my Dishonour ; so that I committed a Thousand Insolencies without receiving the least Check or Controul. How pernicious a thing is it to choose Foolish, ignorant, and Immoral Persons into Offices ? It is like throwing Poyson into a Publick Fountain ; every Man has a Share of Death, and all partake of the Mischief he commits. But since you may long hear how I came off with my Office, you must know that the Sollicitors and Attorneys are the Persons that represent the Conduct of the Judges to be either just or unjust ; and having laid so many Obligations upon them, you may be sure they became my fast Friends, and magnified my worst Actions, instead of accusing me of Male-Administration. Finally at Three Years End I laid down my Employment with the good Opinion of all, and indiffer-

ereby sent Rich ; but my supercilious Companions on the contrary Poor, and with an ill-Report. Is it not profitable think you to be a Fool ? Possibly you will tell me, I was not so in this Affair, but prudent and discreet ; you have some Reason in what you say ; for it was Discretion not to contradict my Corrigidor in any thing he should command tho' never so unjust, because he was my Superior, and I took up that Office with a full purpose to obey him. Again, what Wise Man would not be complaisant to *Alguaziles* and Attorneys ? To comply with their Requests was Policy not Folly ; but call it what you will, I liv'd happily and easily by this Management.

I presented my Person at Madrid, and gave such a good Account of my Proceedings, that I gain'd the Repute of an honest and upright Judge. Wherefore the Corrigidor employ'd all the Interest he had at Court to procure from his Majesty a more profitable Employment for me : In the mean time I lodg'd at his House, sate at his Table, was allow'd his Coach, and liv'd like a Prince. Ambition now began to disquiet me, for tho' I had a Natural Aversion to living in a Garret, yet this populous kind of Life ruin'd my Humility, and began to indulge my self with the Flat-

teries which my Power bestowed upon me ; I did not think I liv'd that Day wherein I did not command. At the Fair of my Folly *Corrigidors* came by Dozens offering me the same Sallery my own had given me, if I would serve them in the like Capacity. But I, that must needs be a Fool upon Record, rejected their Proposals, and fell to begging a settled Place at Court, wherein I was favour'd with the Power my *Corrigidor* had ; and tho' it may not be so proper, yet I'll tell you a Friend, who I hope will not divulge it, I had an Advantage of all other Pretenders, which I merited only by my Folly. For they trusting to the Strength of their Deserts, were not so diligent to oblige those from whom they expected Kindness, judging that they who were to honour them, were sensible of their Merits by looking in their Faces : My Friend, who does it signify that thou art worthy and deserving, if thou art not known to be so ? Proclaim thy Gifts and Parts that thou mayst be taken notice of, or else never pretend to obtain thy Ends.

In the mean time I learn'd the greatest piece of Court Policy, which is Flattery and Courtesy ; I meditated an Hour every Morning before I went out of my Lodging

whi

what new Method's I should take to oblige
and sweeten those from whom I expected
Kindness : I was the first since *Adam* that
persuaded great Persons, that they resem-
bled the Gods in bestowing Favours with-
out any Hopes of Recompence. Another
time I thus address'd a Nobleman : ' My
Lord, your Excellency, by reason of
your Dignity and Magnanimous Tem-
per, has a strong Obligation to be kind
to me; since it is known you delight in
being beneficial to all Mankind ; so that
now I have given your Honour an Op-
portunity to exercise that Admirable
Virtue on my Behalf.' By these and such
other Encomiums I persuaded them that
those Persons represented Princes most,
who were most Favourable to their Ser-
vants.

By the Bribes and Presents I gave I was
reckon'd a Fool by thoſe who were ſo
themselves, because I ſeldom preſented
things to be Eaten ; though they told me I
ſhould never have good Succes but by
ſuch means ; for ſuch Gifts cost little, yet
were very acceptable ; I was always of a
diſſerent Opinion, and would never preſent
any thing but what ſhould be long in
View, and repreſent the Donor to their
Memory, for which reaſon they are call'd

104 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

Presents ; things edible are not of this quality, for they must be presently spent, or else will be spoil'd. One time I remember, I forgot this necessary Precept ; for staying in a Drawing Room to wait upon a Lady for whom I had a Violent Passion, a *Duenna* came out to entertain me, and another Gentleman who was an Assistant to me in these Adventures. The *Duenna* began the Conversation, asking him what he had eaten for Dinner, what Cook he kept, and other Questions of this Nature; the Gentleman, who thought himself very discreet, began to invent Twenty Dainty Dishes never thought on before ; assuring her he had a Cook who made most incomparable Pasties of the Sinews of Legs of Veal, Breasts of Capons, Partridges, Pidgeons, and Turtles, so that nothing in the World was more delicious ; he had scarce ended his Discourse, when the *Duenna* whose Chops watered after these Pasties, desired him to send her one for a Tast : The Coxcomb promis'd her One, being glad she believ'd him ; and judg'd him a Man of an excellent Palate, while he pretended to find out a Cook to verify his Sham-Story. I that was a Fool came next under Examination, and being frighted to think how lamely my Companion would

ould come off, told her, I kept a Cook laid, who knew how to make admirable Saffages, and a Sallad, which might be given to the Dead ; wherein there was some Truth, since no living Body could endure the Smell of it. I was in hopes to have turn'd her Stomach with this course Fare, but as I am always unfortunate with *Duenna's*, she told me she long'd for some of these Saffages and Sallad ; I promis'd her them, and honestly comply'd with my Word ; but doubting that if the Saffages should appear cleanly she would be dunning me for more, I sent a Servant to buy some of those nasty ones which are sold to Porters and Carmen in the streets. He carried them, and whether it was her Greediness, or my Commendation of them, or else my Misfortune, every Saturday-Morning I received a Message from the *Duenna* with her earnest desire to me to accommodate her with more of the same Saffages : I was very sensible of this Weekly Tax, which through my inadvertency I had brought upon myself, and thought it an infringement of my Natural Liberty to be thus impos'd upon ; so that to free my self from this Inconvenience I ordered my Servant One Saturday to bring me a whole Hogs Paunch,

stuffed naturally, without emptying the Guts ; he did so, and they seeming hollow, I fill'd up the Vacancy with Garlic Onions, and a few unsavoury Herbs, so fent them admirably well season'd ; but the Saturday following, notwithstanding all this Precaution, I had another Request that I would be so kind as to oblige her with some more of the same sort. I had then no other Shift to make but to assure her that the Cook-maid that made them dy'd the Night before.

Observe here what craving impudent Wretches these *Duennæs* are ; Half a Hour after she dispatch'd another Messenger to me to know where this Cook was Buried, because she design'd to say certain Masses, together with her Servants, to deliver her Soul out of Purgatory, and that they might Honour the Corpse of a Person, who understand how to make such excellent Sausages ; adding her earnest Desire, that if she had left the Receipt behind her how they were to be made, I would do her the Favour to bestow it on her : I was thereupon compell'd to make a Receipt for Sausages of whatever came into my Head, and to send it to her, acquainting her likewise that the Cook maid was already buried, and that she

need not wait for her. In Fear I then the yet riser My incels, wh they had forgot, al to my be always finefs.

stacles short sig sent me greatest those Pa the Sigh which E Conque the Caste very Cu Value of on a Ho swifter mettleso Alexan but like richly h Don Qu

need not trouble her self to say any Masses for her. However I am to this very Day in Fear least she should send to know whether the Author of these Sarcasmes be not yet risen again.

My ingenious Presents had better Success, which sometimes cost me less than if they had been to be eaten, and are soon forgot, and yet were generally as effectual to my purpose as if I had set a Page to be always putting them in mind of my business. Once I presented a Pair of Spectacles to a Minister of State, who was short sighted, affirming that they were sent me by my Brother from Italy, as the greatest Curiosity that was to be found in those Parts, which wonderfully preserv'd the Sight, and were the same Spectacles which King *Don Ferdinand* wore in his Conquest of Spain; I procur'd likewise the Case to be made Old Fashion'd, and very Curious, which added much to the Value of the Spectacles; For if you look on a Horse without his Trappings, tho' swifter than those of the Sun, and more mettlesome than *Bacchus* the Steed of *Alexander the Great*, he would appear but like a Mill-Horse; whereas if he were richly harnes'd, though as wretched as *Don Quixot's* Dapple, he would be esteem-

ed

ed like Bellerophon's *Pegasus*, or the Flying Horse.

Nay it hath sometimes been my Good Fortune that an *Italian* Sallad, which I have sent to some Persons, that cost me not above Six Pence, hath been as acceptable, as if I had presented them with a Camel loaden with Pheasants. Moreover nothing is more pleasing to Women than Flowers, Patches, Ribbons, Paints, and Beauty-Washes: If you are not of this Opinion, inquire of the most complaisant Ladies of this Age, and they will be so ingenious as to tell you, that were it not for these Charms and Artifices no Man would hardly look them in the Face. This ignorant Minister put on my Spectacles, and perswaded himself that he could see almost through a Stone-Wall with them; and was as thankful for them, as if I had renewed his Sight; assuring me that he had my Affairs in his Eyes, as having my Spectacles continually before them. This then may properly be call'd a Present, that is never absent from the Sight of a great Man to whom it is given. You must remark, That those Spaniards who are dim-sighted, wear their Spectacles tryed, on all Day long wheresoever they go.

Another Nobleman, on whom depend-

ed my Hopes, had a great Opinion of his own Handlomness, though he was a skinny, lockram jaw'd Person, long visag'd, and whose Cheek-bones stood out so much that they affronted his Beauty. I having an account of a Merchant who had false Looking-Glasses that would shew Twenty different Faces, chose out One amongst them that made a Man seem to have a Round Plump Face; and was imbellish'd with a curious Ebony Frame Inlaid with Ivory: This I presented him with, as the Truest that was ever made, protesting it was the Looking-Glass at which the *Cava* used to sit Two Hoursevery Morning dressing her self, before she went to enchant King *Don Rodrigo*. By the way, the true Name of this Lady was *Florinda*, Daughter to Count *Julian*, who, to revenge himself of the King for debauching this his Daughter, betraide the Kingdom of *Spain* to the *Moors*, by whom she was called *Cava*, which in *Arabick* signifies a Whore. This Glass I perswaded the Lord was lately found in the Enchanted Cave at *Toledo*, by the diligence of a Profound Magician, and was a Rarity worthy only to be plac'd in such a Noble Palace as his Excellency's, who was such an Adorer of Antiquities. He accepted it with a smiling Countenance, and

and looking in it found himself fat and plump; and as though I had amended his Phiz, gave me hearty Thanks for it, telling me, no Gift could have been more acceptable to him, which I easily believ'd because it flatter'd his Vanity in what he had most Occasion for.

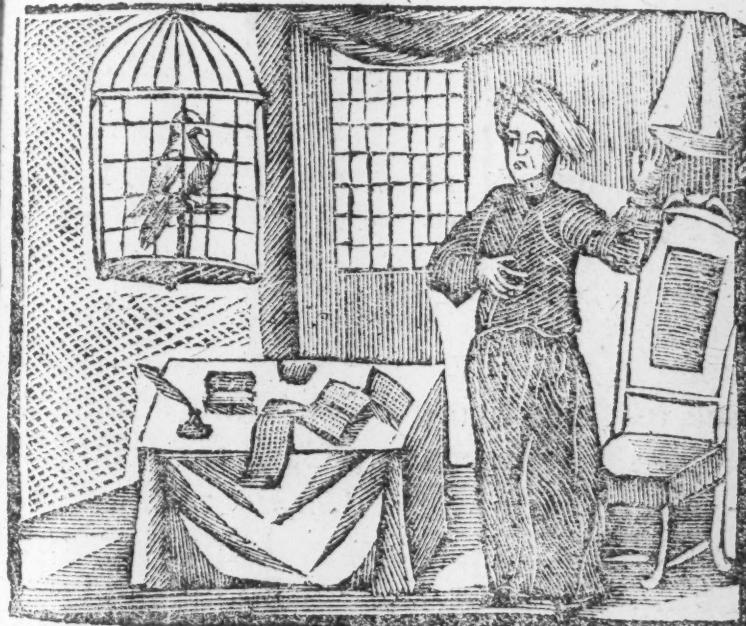
Buy Looking-Glasses then, and present them to your Acquaintance, since they much resemble some pretended Friends which flatter like Looking-Glasses, and make you believe you are Full-fac'd and Prudent; when you are Lean, and Foolish in your Actions. I understand afterwards that his Lordship consulted his Perfections Four times a day, and was so pleas'd that he declar'd this only was a True Looking-Glass, and that the right making of them was never thoroughly understood since the Days of King *Rodrigo*; all Arts being so adulterated that they had not the Ingenuity to make a Faithful Glass in all *Spain*; so manifest it is that nothing appears true to us but what agrees with our Fancy. You may say I was a Fool in presenting a Looking-Glass to a Nobleman, and that a fine Horse had been a more proper Present; you don't understand yourself, for a Horse would not be a Present, in regard he would not always be present;

nor

Yet
luckily
man,

Fools have Fortune. III

nor put him in mind of my Busines, because he generally went abroad in a Coach or a Chair ; but the Glass was present Four times a Day, so that my *Cava* was a continual Intercessor for me. If these Contrivances pass with you for Follies you your self are but a Fool ; what do you think of a Present I once made of a Clock with an Alarm that disturb'd the whole Parish ; was not this a good Remembrancer at all Hours ?



Yet no Present, in my Opinion, hit so luckily as one that I made to a great Statesman, who was extream Proud, though of very

112 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

very mean Parentage. Fortune, you must understand, rais'd him to Preferment to discover her Power in advancing Men who are little or nothing worth, to Dignity and Honour. He had his clear Ascendancy from a Cellar of Water belonging to his Grandfather ; but he forgot these Waters were a Reproach to his Birth, and could never see a good Face of his own in them, having himself a very ill one, which had still imprinted on it the Curses that his Grandfather gave to his Ass, who carried his Water-Pots. Coming by chance into a Broker's Shop where a Parrot was to be sold, I began to bargain for it, and questioning its Abilities they told me it was a Young one, and newly began to speak, not knowing how to say any thing but *Waterman, Waterman* ; I presently thought I had found a sufficient Mortification for the Pride of this Statesman ; I bought it, and made a Cage for it large enough to have held a *Duenna* : I have told you already that I was impatient till I could arrive to live in Pomp and Grandure ; for this reason I presented this Bird to my Politician, as the best qualified and most witty Parrot in the World ; the Cage likewise spoke a Thousand Marvels in its Favour. He was very thankful, and the

Bird

Bird discovered its pregnant Understanding, by giving Lessons of Humility daily to this *Lucifer in a Gown*.

Every time he came home, it had a *Memento Mori* in its Mouth, receiving him always with *Waterman, Waterman*, which it repeated with much quickness; now never uttering any other Word, he was much concern'd, and possess'd with an Opinion that some Angel spoke to him by the Mouth of a Parrot: He then began to tremble, chang'd the Scene of his Conversation, and laid aside his haughty Carriage and Looks: Finally the Man was Converted by the Lectures of the Parrot; he already gave Audience with more Facility, treated People with less Disdain, and Spoke with less Scorn, particularly to me, to whom he often said he had an especial Obligation; and though I knew for what he would never acquaint me with it. A few Days after it chang'd its Note by means of another Parrot at a Neighbour's house, of whom it learn'd to say, *Ah poor Parrot, who comes there, who comes here?* However the Master lost Nothing of his former Credulity, but believed it was a good Spirit Cloath'd in Green, and attributed that change of his Note to his own Amendment, and Reformation from his

his Pride; so that the Parrot never uttered any thing but he thought there was some Mystery in it. I must needs confess this rash Folly might have return'd upon my own Head if the Truth of it had been discover'd: Trust not therefore in such Follies unless you have a great deal of Courage; or that you think a Fool may venture to do any thing; for in short flatter'd with Injuries, and gain'd Favours by *Affronts*.

But yet methought I was out of my Element, whilst I was not in Love. The Suing for an Office, and the Courting a Lady, are so much alike that it was easy for me to pass from one to the other; with Flatteries we sollicite for Employments; with Flatteries we attack Ladies; these with Gifts we approach, those with Presents to gain an Office the least Qualifications are deserving them, because Blind Fortune disposes of them; neither is it of any Importance to the Ladies whether we deserve them or not, because 'tis either good or ill Fortune that makes us gain or lose them. I fell desperately in love with a Young Lady of a Noble Family, and yet more Rich than Noble. She was the Delight and Care of her Parents, who had no other Child to divert their Affections.

and bred up under her Mother with Mar-malade and Carroway Comfits, so that her little Heart was infected with Coyneſſ and Difdain: The Fame of her great Fortune occaſioned her being Courted by a numerouſ Company of Adorers of diſferent Ranks and Qualities, as Lawyers, Knights of the Golden Fleece, and Gentlemen of Good Estates; but ſhe affronted and baffled them all with her Quirks and Repartees. An *Alcalde* or Judge of *Sevil*, a Man of Sense and a great Gallant, ſhe diſcarded, telling him ſhe was resolv'd neuer to bring her ſelf under the Power of Justice. Another Gentleman ſhe diſpatch'd, because when he came to viſit her he always ask'd how ſhe did, as if ſhe did not look well, or agreeable. She obſerv'd another Pretender to pull out his Spectacles in the Play-Houſe to look toward the Apartment of the Women; and being Jealous ask'd him what he look'd at? Who to excuse himſelf reply'd, *Maddam, I do not look at the Perfections, but at the Defects of these Ladies;* Nay then, ſaid ſhe with a diſdainful Countenance, *I will never have a Husband who is ſo follicitous in laying out the Faults of others that he diſcovers his own;* for I had neuer known that you were ſhort-fighted, but for your Curioſity to pry

pry into the Blemishes of those Ladies. And Opinion
ther valued himself for being a Poet and not have
making Verses ; she sharply replyed, that being
could never Love that Man who esteem'd
Lying and Flattery to be Virtues.

In this Trifling manner she wasted her Youth till she arriv'd to Forty Years of Age, her Father and Mother dying by being altogether tired out with her Whimsies, rather than of their Years. And now Old Time began to threaten her that if she dallied any longer with these Delays she should be forc'd to sue for an Husband, not without the hazard of being repuls'd. She therefore admitted Visits from ingenuous Men, and was ambitious to be count'd a Wit ; and that she might be esteem'd an Oracle, gave out that the most Learned Men came daily to consult with her about their most difficult Affairs. I then made my Addresses to her under the notion of a Grave Philosopher ; and to set off my self to the best Advantage, repeated Three or Four Sonnets which I had compos'd in my Younger Days in Praise of Black Eyes and white Hands, and uttering very modestly a few Sentences out of the Ancient Sages I was reckoned as witty as *Cato* ; but I was sorry to find her not having always had a good

Opinion of discreet Women, yet I would
not have them Wiser than my self; Equa-
lity being always most agreeable, since we
are in danger to be over reach'd by those
that are more subtle than our selves. I
was however fearful of displeasing her,
being neither deeply smitten with her, nor
altogether disliking her: One Evening,
when the Darkness usually occasions Bold-
ness, and hides Blushes I thus address'd
her.

‘ Madam, the difference between Fools
and Wise Men, in my Opinion, is only
this, that the latter act according to rea-
son and Ingenuity, and the former by
their own weak and vain Imaginations.
If I did not perswade my self that you
are discreet I should forbear to declare
what I have been long since desirous to
acquaint you with, for Fear that, accord-
ing to the Opinion of the Vulgar, you
should call that an Injury which is real-
ly the product of my Affection. I have
lov’d you tenderly since the first time I
saw and spoke with you, but with Ho-
nourable and Virtuous Intentions ; ano-
ther would say, It is the effect of my De-
stiny ; but I do not, because I would
not have Fortune have the Praise that is
due to your Beauty and my Passion, since
‘ your

118 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

your Excellent Perfections are sufficient to procure Adoration from all Mankind. She having the Vanity to believe that the World accounted her a Doctor, and thinking me to be a Doctor seem'd very well pleas'd with my Compliment at that Time, and to Appearance Matters stood very fair between us.

A Gentleman of my Acquaintance, who us'd generally to accompany me in my Visits went One day to see her by himself. He was a Person of a good Wit, pleasant in Conversation, and very ingenious in Discourse ; they talk'd of several Matters, the Entertainment being like an *Italian Sallad*, a great deal in the whole and a little of every Thing, but amongst all there was no mention made of me so that I perceiv'd her Kindness was only Civility to me, and that she had no real Favour for me. Being concern'd, I had many Guesses at the Occasion of it, and rag'd at length concluded she did not think me so Rich as her self; for oftentimes Love is so much a Friend to Equality, that he desireth the same in Wealth, as well as in other things. However I was not Jealous that her rejecting me was for want of Understanding or Handsomeness, being sensible, that as to Beauty, every one else

ffice he faine as it agrees with his own Inclina-
tion ; some reckon a Woman handsome if
she be Wife ; others account her Wife if
she be silent, and commend that for a Vir-
tue, which proceeds only from Necessity,
implie not knowing what to say. Some value
long Faces, others Round ; some Black
eyes, others a delicate Mouth, and some
who are admired as if they were Beautiful as
Helenus, or *Helen of Troy*, who are really
no better than Doudies, or fulsome Kit-
Wit-Wenchess.

It vex'd me that I had made a Declara-
tion of my Love, since I had met with an
Repulse, as I imagined. At
length I thought of a Plot whereby I might
her make Trial of the reasonableness
my Suspicion, than procure any Love
only on her by it ; I loved her, but was not
so reall amoured of her ; I had a Kindnes for
her, but did not doat on her ; and being
and rag'd at her Slights, I thought if I could
make her acknowledge she had a re-
Love for me I should gain the Field, and
have the Glory of being Victor. I there-
as feign'd my self sick, and began to
complain that I had an Hundred Vipers
of Uncting my Heart, using such other Fran-
g Speeches as intolerable Pains common-
sugget. I gave strict Command to my

120 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

Servants to let no body come into my Lodgings, and lock'd my self up Four Days in my Chamber the better to carry on the Fraud ; so that the whole Town rang of my Indisposition, and at length some of my Acquaintance came to visit me, with Three or Four able Physicians from the Court. These good Men felt my Pulse, inspected my Urine, and by the relation that my Attendants gave them of my Groans and Unquietness, they concluded, yea swore, my Disease was Mortal. This made all believe it, and indeed I could not tell what to think of it, for though I found my self in perfect Health, yet who could believe he was so when Three or Four Grave Men, who resembled Old Time by their Age and Beards, did so solemnly averr the contrary. This put such a Doubt into my Mind that the Day following I ordered my Servants to carry *Jacomo* my Pages Water to the Doctors, and shew it them instead of mine, he being the most brisk, and lively Boy in the Whole Town. Upon Viewing the Urinal these Learned Physicians shrug'd up their Shoulders, and with grievous Sighs declar'd, that the Distemper had got ground of me, and Tyranniz'd over my Heart daily more and more. I then

began to consider that my Doctors were weak and not I, understanding no more than what my Attendants told them of my Distemper.

When I perciev'd I was well, I resolv'd to prosecute the Imposture, screeking and roaring out so loud that the whole Street heard me, and among them my Wise Mistress too, who believ'd me to be very ill, without any Suspicion to the contrary, yet was not so kind as to send to know how I did. Do but observe now what Effect the Inequality of Riches has upon Mankind. I began to think that I had been sick long enough, since the Physicians had given me over, and that it was time to make my will. I desir'd an Honest Friend of mine to fetch Scrivener, who being come, and having writ down the usual Pious Preface, I thereby bequeath'd to my *Lady Senioria Donna Temeraria* the Value of an Hundred Thousand Duckets in Money and such Goods, adding this Clause with my own Hand; *for the Tender Love I have born her, and for the Favors which I have received at her Hands.* This I delivered to him with a Profound Sigh. Master Doctor, said my Friend, extreamly surpriz'd, *Pray what Effects do you leave for the Performance of this testament?* Be silent Sir I beseech you, Quoth I, till I have consider'd how to dispose of what remains; I am satisfied there's more than enough in his Inventory to pay all the Legacies contain'd herein; and therewith I gave him a large Catalogue of Valuab'e Goods. For this Action I was seem'd not only a Fool but a Madman.

The Scrivener was no sooner got out of my Lodggs but he hastned immediately to my Heires, to demand a Reward for the good News he brought; vising her to cause some Masses to be said that I might be carried to Heaven, or at least out of this world. My Mistress understanding this excess of Love call'd her Chair and Servants, and with-

122 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

out delaying a Moment, or any consideration of her Quality, and the Indecency of her Proceeding, was brought immediately to my Chamber; and as if I had really been her Husband, coming to my Bed-side began to embrace me, besprinkling my Face with her Tears, thinking my Sickness was occasioned by her Disdain, and that her Kindness would recover me: Ah vain Women, why should we not treat you as you do us? Alas! Am I sick? Shall I Die for Love? Are you in your Wits? Are you the Discreet Lady? We shall see anon: I suffered her to use her whining Expressions, to cry, and commit other Extravagancies, pretending myself so near Death that I did not know her.



There were at this time in the Room a great number of my Friends and Acquaintance, and this seeing a fit Opportunity for my Revenge, I suddenly threw the Cloaths off the Bed, and stepped

jimbly int
nt; and
ny Audien
than Droc
ly counte
was bred
of Arcad
tunes by
for a Tho
was the
and with
suppos'd
admitted
form'd th
drew fro
Love; I
examine
a Corresp
ly broke
out the T
yet have
it hath f
hath cur'
procures
not in lo
her, yet
my self
my Heire
of. No
Rich, bu
kindled;
Loves, fo
as I was
mented
dred Tho
Revenge
Beautiful
dearly fo

simbly into the Floor ready drest, and very Gal-
lant; and seating my self in a Chair spake thus to
my Audience; ‘ Gentlemen, all this is no more
than Drollery and an Amorous Stratagem; I on-
ly counterfeited Love; it was all but a Jest; I
was bred up in *Madrid*, and not in the Forests
of *Arcadia*, and have learn’d to avoid Misfor-
tunes by other Mens Examples; This Lady, who
for a Thousand Excellencies deserves Veneration,
was the Idol of my Soul; I lov’d her sincerely
and with an Honourable Design. Now while she
suppos’d I was as Wealthy as her self she freely
admitted my Addresses; but when she was in-
form’d that my Estate was not equal, she with-
drew from me a proportionable Quantity of her
Love; I resented this Usage, and being curious to
examine into the cause of this Alteration, that
a Correspondence so well setied should be so quick-
ly broken off, I resolv’d on this Course to find
out the Truth; I pretended I was sick at Heart,
yet have ever found my self sound, for though
it hath sometimes been wounded, yet slighting
hath cur’d it; Love requires Love, and Contempe
procures Contempt; I was pleas’d with her, but
not in love with her; I had some Desires after
her, yet was far from running mad, or hanging
my self for her; in my Will I confess I left her
my Heiress, but of Goods that I never was Owner
of. No sooner did she believe me Liberal and
Rich, but her Love, which had lain hid, re-
kindled; yet do not suppose me Fortunate in my
Loves, for I never was so. She did not pity me
as I was Doctor *Cenudo*, but as being Rich she la-
mented me; it was not my Person but my Hun-
dred Thousand Ducats that she was fond of. My
Revenge might have gone farther, she oeing Rich,
Beautiful and Prudent, but I shold have pay’d
dearly for it; no, I am not for a Wife that de-

124 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

despises me for the False Shadows of Wealth ; you gave me the name of a Fool for my excessive Love, but you condemn'd me without hearing ; now judge what you please since I have so fully declar'd my self.

I had scarce utter'd this, when the whole Company fell out a laughing, for till then Admiration had kept them silent. The *Fair Ingrate* was so confounded at this Transaction, that without speaking a Word, covering her Red Blushes with her Black Veil, she instantly retir'd. The Physicians came soon after to inquire if I were not yet expir'd, and finding me well, vow'd they'd burn their Physick-Books. But every one applauded the Humour for the most pleasant they had ever seen or heard of.

C H A P. IX.

A Surprizing Adventure happen'd to him, which turn'd to his great Advantage, only for being reckoned a Fool.

Fortune seem'd now to smile upon me, and to leave me to my self, since by my Folly I had been so successful, and enjoy'd so much Felicity. Yea that which appear'd at first Sight to be pernicious and to my Loss, yet in the Conclusion turn'd to my great Profit and Advantage, as you shall hear instantly.

It happen'd then that being One Day in a Booksellers Shop near *Sancta Cruce*, I saw an Ancient Priest drag'd along with much Rudeness by the Bayliffs towards the Vicar's Prison, and another Grave Man following him, and filling the Streets with his Clamour : *What horrid Impudence is this, cryes he*

to treat a Father Confessor with so much Barbarity; there is no Justice therein, neither ought it to be suffer'd among Christians. I came running at the Noise, and was scarce got to them, when the Priest that was the Prisoner catch'd hold on me, saying, Doubtless it is he, although he has a Beard; I am confident it must be he. When I saw my self embrac'd and almost kiss'd by a Man who I guess'd was going to Prison for some heinous Crime, I imagin'd that he accus'd me for being an Accomplice with him in it, and was extreamly surpriz'd therat; crying out, now Sir I am not in the least concerned with you, for I am the Son of very Honest Parents, and would not be guilty of what you are charg'd with for all the World.

The peevish Old Man that made the Noise ask'd me who was my Father; I being very angry at that Question reply'd; ' My Father, Sir, was a very good Christian; and so he taught me to be. He was as good a Gentleman as any in the Kingdom, and no Man could speak any thing of him but what was just and Honourable; it is well known in Madrid what an upright Person the Licentiate Don Diego Hernandez was, and if I have any thing praise-worthy in me, it is in being the Son of such a good Father. I had scarce ended my Speech, ut the same Old Man cry'd, *He speaks Truth, it is he, no doubt it is the same;* and coming nearer embrac'd me again with much Kindness; who continu'd still in my Suspicion and Mistake, believ'd that they design'd to apprehend me, and that this seemingodearedness was oniy to hold me fast, and not out of Kindness; I therefore began to exclaim, saying, *I take my Oath it is a False Testimony, for I am as innocent as the Child unborn.*

At this the Old Man that held me fell into a loud Laughter, By this Outcry of his (says he) I should have known his Voice among a Quire of Singing Men, & such Foolish Expressions could proceed from none but

Pedro Hernandez ; Hold Nephew, said the Priest, Leave your Bawling, and take notice that this Gentleman is your Father's Executor, who Dyed Judge of the



Contratation House of Sevil, and came to me to inquire what was become of you, and because I could not give him a good account of your Person they were carrying me to Jail upon your Account. I ask'd them Pardon for my Surprizal ; and after they had both embrac'd me again, and sent away the Bayliffs I went to their Lodging, where being all Three seated the good Gentleman acquainted me, that my Father being very desirous of seeing Spain, and Dyin where he was Born, had sued for, and obtained Place in the Contratation House of Sevil ; to which end having embarked himself and put to Sea, in his Return home my Mother Dy'd, and he fell sic of a Violent Fever which in Three Days after his Landing at Sevil put an end to his Life, leaving me

in his Will
being to be
which he ha
I shew'd
the Truth i
I really ha
lament for
grieve for
he go to H
f to the o
mented si
he goes to
his Release
pray his S
we never b
vided for
in earnest,
considerin
Father, M
they ende
gumments,
efficacious
on the de
The Gent
took out
had passin
which co

' And
an Ignor
incapa
whereby
Provisio
afore-m
last W
Estate ;
thereof
perpete
and Nu

in his Will One half of his Estate, the other half being to be divided between his other Two sons which he had in the Indies.

I shew'd my Resentment at so great a Loss, and the Truth is, discover'd more Signs of Sorrow than I really had ; by which I perceiv'd that when we lament for the Death of any Person, we do not grieve for the Evil that hath befallen him ; for if he go to Happiness what ill hath happen'd to him ; if to the other Place, he doth n't deserve to be lamented since he hath but his Deserts ; neither if he goes to Purgatory, in regard there is Hopes of his Release if he leave the Priestis Money enough to pray his Soul out of it ; and if we want him not, we never bewail him. I finding he had so well provided for me at his Death, was not much afflited in earnest, but yet I remain'd sad for some time, considering that a Man begins to Die, when his Father, Mother, Brother or Sister goes before him ; they endeavoured to comfort me with Spiritual Arguments, though indeed there are no Comforts so efficacious as *Philippus Hispaniarum Rex*, stamp'd on the dead Man's Coin which he leav'd behind. The Gentleman perceiving me somewhat comforted took out the Will which he kept in his Cabinet, and passing over several Articles, he read the Item which concern'd me, and ran thus ;

' And forasmuch as *Pedro Hernandez* my Son, is an Ignoramus, a Fool, and an Idiot, and thereby incapable of any Art, Trade, or Employment, whereby to maintain himself ; I make greater Provision for him than for his other Two Brothers aforesaid, bequeathing him, by this my last Will and Testament, the One half of my Estate ; and I do hereby require that One half thereof be settled upon him accordingly, for a perpetual Inheritance, to pass to the Idiots, Fools, and Nums, which shall descend from my said Son ;

128. *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

and not to the Eldest by any means, if he be not a Fool, and incapable. In consideration that otherwise he hath a better Inheritance, more valuable and more durable, if he have Wisdom and Ingenuity to manage his Affairs, and gain an Estate ; and whereas my Two Sons aforesaid, *Diego* and *Ferdinando* are so qualified, and able to live handsomely in the World, I desire and it is my Will, that they Content themselves with that proportion of my Goods I have allotted them.

This Sir, added he, I had a mind to read to you a little to allay your Sorrow, since hereby no less than Four Thousand Ducats a Year fall to your Share, for your Father, now in Bliss, settled his Estate with much Foresight and Prudence. Here you see me Heir to Four Thousand Ducats a Year only for being a Fool ; you cannot imagine that this was an indiscreet Action of my Father, for how could a Wise Judge be guilty of Folly ? What is more reasonable than to succour them who have not Wit to provide for themselves, and to leave Riches to those that are not capable of gaining any. To me I assure you this Clause seem'd the most just, prudent and righteous that ever was made. The Executor and my Uncle (who was the Priest that had been so courstly used, and from whom I ran away *incognito*, so that he knew not what was become of me, for which he was like to be punished) having instructed me how to manage my Estate, and receive my Rents, the Gentleman return'd to *Sevil*, and my Uncle to his Curacy at *Odon*.

Finding my self Master of Four Thousand Ducats a Year I sold all my Civil Law Books, and made a Vow never to follow any Employment relating to that Science while I liv'd. You must know my highest Ambition was always to be Honour'd and Valu'd by all sorts of People, which proceeded from the great Conceit I had of my self;

I being of
is founded
Man who is
Eminent Pa
never make
may be re
his Ingenui
Man in Au
Fear than f
gers, and
a Judge or
I had any
so, either
Fortune.

So I wi
at Court,
with nothi
contented
it with ma
thinks I a
manner I
the Blessin
ness of eit
the necessi
more Kiod
One that h
seems mor
tupe. Na
they hear
man desire
I was her
nough to
below Sea
wherewith
I keep T
have Beau
nish'd it
and Inclin

I being of the Opinion that Estimation or Respect is founded upon Merit and Desert ; so that the Man who is generally esteem'd, is suppos'd to have Eminent Parts and Qualifications. Rich Men can never make Tryal of this, because a Wealthy Man may be regarded for his Estate only, and not for his Ingenuity or Natural Endowments. And so a Man in Authority has more respect paid him out of Fear than for Love. I encountered both these Dangers, and was much concern'd to think, that being a Judge or a Rich Man, I was still ignorant whether I had any true Friends, or that they only appear'd so, either upon the Account of my Power or my Fortune.

So I withdrew my Hand from all my Pretensions at Court, where great Men are deluded and fed with nothing but Adulations and Flatteries ; and contented my self with my own Estate, concealing it with much Artifice and Care, so that no Body thinks I am any more than a Poor Doctor ; in this manner I enjoy all the Priviledges of Poverty, and the Blessings of Riches, without tasting the Bitterness of either of them. If at any time I believe the necessity of some Friend, it is entertain'd with more Kindness and Gratitude, because I am thought One that hath not much to spare. The least Gift seems more than it is, considering my mean Fortune. No Thieves nor Robbers molest me, since they hear I have little enough for my self. No Woman desires me for an Husband (cho' she may wish I was her Gallant) thinking I have not Estate enough to keep her a Coach, or purchase Fine Furbelow Scarfs, and the rest of the Habiliments wherewith Ladies now a days adorn themselves ; I keep Two Servants of my own Humour, and have Beautified my House with Pictures, and furnish'd it with such Books as agree with my Fancy and Inclination.

C H A P. X.

He falls in Love with a Young Lady, surprises her Mother and she coming from Mass, and secretly detains his Mistress in his own House.

IN the midst of this good Fortune I fell in Love with *Donna Dorothea* one Morning as she was walking like a Nymph on the banks of the River *Manzanares* near *Madrid*, to affront the Rays of the Sun with her more resplendent Beauty ; her Hair hanging down at Length playing with the gentle Winds ; I concluded she was going a Hunting being near the Park, and her Eyes verified it, for they made me their Prey ; What need there be Swords and Muskets if fair Eyes can wound ? What occasion for Artillery, when Beautiful Eyes can Conquer ! Such were hers, and were doubly dangerous, because they kill'd at a small Expence of their Forces, her Glances being sufficient to slay any Man.

The Freshness of the Morning seem'd proper for Courtship, and for Lovers to make their amorous Addresses. I took Courage, and spoke to her in that engaging Style which the Babies in her Eyes prompted me to : I found methought somewhat like a welcome Reception in them which flattered my Hopes. I follow'd her, learn'd her House, the Quality of her Parents, and all other Circumstances, but thought it not convenient to Court her publickly considering my Age and Profession. However Fortune presented an Opportunity whereby I might visit her by Night ; for her Mother and she were intimately acquainted with a Lady a Kinswoman of mine, and by this means I had easy Access to them.

and made
seem'd on
are now
dains, and
my Rivals
far the E
over me :
I had done
who, beca
withdrew
her, and s
in the end
nour. I
but in suc
ape either
sincere Af

One Ch
she and he
ing them
them, bu
Coachman
al, leſt m
Usher to t
of the Co
melites Ch

" I wo
" Doctor
" is playi
" Blockho
" lige us
" Women
" Dorothe
" am econ
" for som
" it is n
" as he is
" the Nu
" Whimf

and made several Visits, so that at length what seem'd only Civility was really Love. Six Months are now expir'd since I patiently suffer'd her Disdains, and that with so much Caution, as not only my Rivals but even she her self is unacquainted how far the Empire of Love has extended its Power over me : I was fearful of running the Hazard that I had done with my late discreet chaste'd Mistress ; who, because I discover'd my Passion freely to her, withdrew the Favours and Kindness I receiv'd from her, and utterly cast me off and deserted me, and in the end exposed her own Reputation and Honour. I therefore treated this Lady with Respect, but in such doubtful Terms that it had the Appearance either of Courtship and Compliment, or of sincere Affection.

One *Christmas* Night I came to her House, just as she and her Mother were going into a Coach ; I seeing them ready to go forward, did not speak to them, but stopt up into the Coach-box, and the Coachman getting up on One of the Horses as is usual, left me his Place, supposing I was Gentleman Under to the Ladies ; I laid my Ear to the Window of the Coach whilst we were going towards the *Carmelites* Church, and heard their Discourse.

" I wonder, says the Mother, why this foolish Doctor is not here to Night ? I'll lay my Life he is pleying the Ass elsewhere : What a tiresome Blockhead he is ? Does he think he is able to oblige us by his Sophistical Arguments ? We are Women not Philosophers : Indeed, cry'd *Donna Dorothea*, he is a Man of a pleasant Humour, I am confident he is now making *Christmas Carols* for some zealous Nun of his Acquaintance ; for it is not possible but such a whimsical Coxcomb as he is, must needs be a Devotee, or Adorer of the Nuns ; what a conceited Fool he is of his Whimsies ? And imagines that every witty Repar-

" tee which he makes is able to subdue a Heart,
 " 'Tis a Wonder to me to think -that he who has
 " so much Schollarship should be guilty of such
 " Stupidity ; and then how does he slabber his
 " Chops at every word ; Oh my Stars, deliver me
 " from such a Phlegmatick Fellow ; for my part I
 " believe he expects that his Auditors should ap-
 " plaud and say *Amen* to every Sentence which he
 " utters ; has this Man wherewith to fill his Belly ?
 " Surely if he had any thing to keep his Teeth em-



" ploy'd he would never be so vain ; ' tis meer
 " Hunger that forces him to use these Impertinenc-
 " cies.

" Nay there is nothing in the World more di-
 " verting, added *Donna Dorothea*, than hearing him
 " pave my Head and Face with all kind of precious
 " Stones. T'other day I kept account of them,
 " and found that he had reckoned up above an Hun-
 " dred

" dred cho
 " my Eyes
 " Mother,
 " greater
 " tainly an
 " know. th
 " Words
 " Man is t
 " ceited A
 " we wan
 " Mind, G
 " up the N
 " of no D
 " the Mor
 " after Di
 " rash.
 " Christma
 " and stri
 " up to
 " should b
 By this
 went into
 muffl'd up
 being more
 was ever w
 vow'd to t
 they came
 gone to an
 with a G
 his Place a
 ia ; they
 of the sha
 of Rage a
 heard mor
 spake not
 Observing
 ing them
 mine by

" dred choice Jewels which were to be found in
" my Eyes, Cheeks, Lips and Hair; aye, says the
" Mother, I find he courts thee for a Wife, what
" greater Folly can there be than this? He is cer-
" tainly an egregious Idiot, or else he must needs
" know that the Licentiate Campuzano has fewer
" Words and more Deeds; come, come, that
" Man is tollerable, who though he be but a con-
" ceited Ass, yet he is Rich, and hath that which
" we want. In troth I resolve to tell him my
" Mind, since he hath declar'd his, and we'll strike
" up the Match out of hand; these matters admit
" of no Delay; for there have been Men who in
" the Morning seem'd to be mad for Love, and yet
" after Dinner were more hard-hearted than Pha-
" rasb. To morrow he'll come to wish us a merry
" Christmas, and in good earnest we'll make it so,
" and strike up the Match; for you are now grown
" up to Womans Estate, and 'tis a Shame you
" should be any longer without a Husband.

By this time we came to the Church where they went into Mattins; I staid at the Door in the Dark, muffl'd up in my Cloak, and in a brown Study, being more stung with my Mistresses Scorns than I was ever wounded with her Beauty, and therefore vow'd to be Reveng'd, which I thus effected. When they came out, the Coachman was absent, being gone to an Hermitage hard by to wet his Throat with a Glass of good Wine. I got up again into his Place and brought the Coach for them to come in; they entred and drew the Curtains by reason of the sharpness of the Air. I drove on being full of Rage and Resentment, and lean'd back to have heard more Reflections on my Conduct, but they spake not a Word, for they were both nodding. Observing them in this Posture, instead of carrying them to their own House, I brought them to mine by the back door, which is on the right hand

134 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

in the Street, and has a Porch somewhat like theirs; besides their Drowsiness might somewhat excuse them; so they alighted, came in, and I presently sent away the Coach by one of my Servants with order to leave it at the Door of their House, and my other Servant having carried *Donna Dorothea* into a private Room handsomly furnish'd, the Mother was sent home in a Chair.

I must now acquaint you there was a certain Person called *Campuzano* aforesaid, a Licentiate, who smoak'd his Face with Brimstone to make himself look pale, let his Beard grow, affected Severity, seldom laugh'd, contracted his Brows, nodding his Head now and then, and saying, 'tis well, he says somewhat; For all which odd Qualities he was counted One of the Wisest Men in the World. This Person was a Pretender to *Donna Dorothea*, and visited her often; upon my surprising of her, as I have related, he was very much afflicted, and at length, by the persuasion of his Friends, came to inquire of me what was become of her; for having retir'd my self for some time in my own House, which I spent in persuading *Dorothea* to have compassion on me, and grant me her Love, I was reported to be an Astrologer and a Conjurer, who could discover wonderful things by my profound Studies, and Magical Arts. After I had a little terrified him and his Friends with some slight Tricks and Amusements, I desired him to acquaint me with the Affair wherein he required my Assistance.

" Worthy Sir, said he, my good Fortune hath guided me hither, to visit you under the greatest Exigency that ever Man was in, which I will declare to you at large, because I hope for some Relief from your profound Science. As I passed One Evening in a Coach thro' the Meadow of St. Jerome (now no more a pleasant Field, but a

" Wilder
" hunted
" entang
" subject
" ed my
" and w
" Owner
" ther Co
" there
" agreeab
" wholly
" Parent
" she had
" mour,
" that m
" so she's
" rouilly,
" ses whi
" and rec
" calmly
" cause I
" procee
" Love.
" me eve
" my Ho
" me;
" some
" she ha
" be requ
" tlemen
" sober,
" was the
" the Fo
" without
" Action
" any Da
" course
" that I

" Wilderness, wherein Men, not Wild Beasts, are
" hunted to their own Destruction.) Here I became
" entangled in the Nets of delicate Hair, and was
" subjected to the Darts of piercing Eyes, I yield-
" ed my self up to the Smiles of a pretty Mouth,
" and was ensnar'd with blushing Cheeks. The
" Owner of these amorous Weapons was in ano-
" ther Coach ; we brought them near together, and
" there was a tender yielding on my part, and an
" agreeable Allowance on hers, so that I became
" wholly her Slave ; I inquired out her House, her
" Parents, and their Quality ; and understanding
" she had a Brother equal to me in Age and Hu-
" mour, I soon acquainted my self with him, and by
" that means got into the House of Donna Dorothea, for
" so she's call'd, *Happy in all Graces*; I courted her amo-
" rously, she answer'd me pleasantly, read my Ver-
" ses which I presented her, and applauded them ;
" and receiv'd some of my Presents : All this pass'd
" calmly, her Parents taking little notice of it, be-
" cause I was her Brother's Friend ; supposing all
" proceeded from Common Kindness, and not from
" Love. Time, Opportunity, and Converse, made
" me every Day more Happy in her Favour, and
" my Hopes increas'd by the Kindness she show'd
" me ; Finally this Lady being exceeding hand-
" some was admir'd by many Pretenders, because
" she had all the excellent Qualifications that cau-
" be requir'd in a Woman ; Nobility for the Gen-
" tlemen, Beauty for the Gallants, Virtue for the
" sober, and Discretion for the Wise ; but I alone
" was the Happy Possessor of her Love ; I storm'd
" the Fort of her Heart, and gain'd it, but not
" without the Loss of my own, if so pleasant an
" Action as giving Love for Love can be counted
" any Damage to the Parties concern'd. In this
" course of Life I passed the most pleasant Hours
" that I can ever hope for in this World. When

" Fortune envying my Excess of Contentment,
" Stole her away from my Eyes, and my Hopes.
" 'Tis Three Days since this deplorable Accident
" happen'd, and in these Three Days I know not
" where I am, because I am ignorant what is be-
" come of her. I went on *Christmas* day to visit
" her, but found her not at home, I ask'd her
" Mother for her, she told me she was gone to see
" an Aunt of hers ; I met her Father in the Street,
" who said that her Mother and she were gone to
" the Convent of *Alcala* ; perceiving they were
" in different Tales I found out her Brother who
" was all in Confusion, and not suspecting that I
" was so much concern'd in the Business, related to
" me the truth of the Matter, and the greatest
" Misfortune that ever befel me since I had a Being.
" How great are the Mischiefs that attend Beauty;
" Divine *Dorothea* I wish thou hadst not been Born
" so Handsome, since Fortune out of Envy perse-
" cutes the most Beautiful; Alas my Destiny, I was
" always afraid that when thou hadst rais'd me so
" high I should have a Fatal Fall. Her Brother
" then gave me an Account that his Sister had been
" wanting since the Night before, (hoping to re-
" ceive Comfort from me, and that I would not
" aggravate his Grief.) That going in a Coach
" with her Mother to Church in returning home
" they were set down, without knowing by whom
" or where, at a House so like theirs, that the
" Night and Sleepiness deceiv'd them ; they entred
" into it, and in an Instant the Coach disappear'd ;
" they were lock'd up in Two several Rooms well
" furnish'd, which shew'd the Master to be Rich.
" They afterwards offer'd a Sedan to the Mother
" to carry her home, telling her that her Daughter
" was there already without any Hurt, and that she
" must be quiet since the Love of a great Man had
" attempted a thing that had not succeeded ; but

" that Dant
" Danger,
" bringing
" took the
" she findin
" doubt bu
" to call to
" on the T
" whom to
" Dead up
" now sou
" Diligenc
" cause I co
" her. Thi
" I throw
" your Co
" me whe
" she is dit
" that Spi
" of Men,
" Sorrow:
" I should
" to this long
" I thereby b
" ridiculous F
" pretend to
" *Dorothea* ;
" little I may
" sunk dow
" might be f
" Mr. Licent
" see with yo
" Sighs ; pe
" passeth.
" course wit
" I is enoug
" drawn ;
" quish'd, a

that *Donna Dorothea* was now very free from all Danger. The Mother believ'd them, and they bringing her into the Street where her House was, took their Leaves and vanish'd in an Instant ; she finding her Daughter was not at home did not doubt but she was betray'd, and that she seem'd to call to her Father and Mother to avenge her on the Traytors, but they found no body upon whom to execute their Wrath. I was almost Dead upon hearing this deplorable News ; I have now sought for her these Three Days with great Diligence, though unknown to her Parents, because I conceal from them the Kindness I have for her. This makes me distracted, and for this Cause I throw my self Learned Sir at your Feet, desiring your Compassion ; and that you would acquaint me where she is, who was the Robber, and how she is dispos'd off ; consult I beseech you with that Spirit of yours which knows the Thoughts of Men, that so I may know the end of my Sorrows.

I should not have had the Patience to hearken to this long doleful Story of the Licentiate, but that I thereby became jealous and angry, that such a ridiculous Fellow should have so much Pride as to pretend to be the Disposer of the Heart of *Donna Dorothea* ; he had no sooner ended his Tale, but a little Image of *Cupid* that hung against the Wall sunk down and left a hollow Place through which might be seen a fine Room curiously adorn'd ; you Mr. Licentiate said I, take courage, and you shall see with your Eyes what hath cost you so many Sighs ; peep through this Hole, and observe what passeth. He did so, and saw *Donna Dorothea* in discourse with a handsome gentle Gallant. This said I is enough for the present, and the Curtain was drawn ; you must know said I, this Lady is vanquish'd, and has dispos'd of her Heart already ; it is not

138. *The Lucky Idiot: Or,*

not convenient to acquaint you with the Place where she is ; but you may tell her Parents, that an Astrologer hath prognosticated that she will in few days be brought back to their House ; in mean time let them make no Bustle, since they will suffer more in their Honour by it than any Body else ; but I am sorry that such an understanding Man, as you are, should suffer yourself to be deceived by the Flatteries of a Woman ; for I can assure you she never lov'd you, and would have married you only for your Wealth without any Affection to your Person. The Licentiate was struck speechless with Rage and Indignation at what he had heard and seen, and taking leave, with giving me many Thanks for the Injuries I had done him, went away blundering, stumbling, and affrighted at what had past.

Don Felix was much delighted to hear the Ingenuity of his Stories, and the newness of his Jests ; and now the Holy Days were past, it seem'd very unjust to him that Donna Dorothea should be coop'd up in that Restraint which cost her Parents so many Cares and Tears ; and finding the Doctor in a pleasant Humour, he ask'd him very seriously what he intended to do with her, and why he had so little Regard to her Quality as to endanger her Credit and Honour from which he gain'd so little Profit. If she receive any Prejudice in her Reputation, says Cenno, I will salve it up by marrying of her, if it be not her own Fault ; for though it be a very hard Chapter, yet I could willingly thrust my self into Matrimony if I could perceive she had any real Inclination toward me. I must confess, reply'd Don Felix, that your handsome Face cannot much en-mour her, since hers is somewhat better and hath less Beard ; if any thing therefore moves her to love you, it will be some excellent thing that she has a mind to, and you are possess'd off ; but you have

hitherto

Pl
hitherto been so great a Coxcomb, that having Four Thousand Ducats a Year, enough to make Four Thousand Maids fall in love with you, because it is such a charming Bait, yet you have conceal'd your good Fortune instead of proclaiming it to all the World; which when she hears of it will certainly make her fall in Love either with you or your Estate in good earnest.

Friend, quoth the Doctor, you say something now, this is indeed to the purpose, 'tis a new ingenious and discreet Thought; you have spoke an incomparable prudent Thing; the more I think of it the better I like it; I now yield my self conquer'd, and must confess I have been a Fool; but I am resolv'd from this Moment to declare my Mind fully to *Donna Dorothea*, and to muster up all the forcible Arguments and Advantages possible, that she may yield to my Desires; yet because this Yoak of Marriage is wont to endure all ones Life, I would willingly build upon sure Grounds, and I think it absolutely necessary to examine my Mistress beforehand, and to discover whether she is not infected with the Follies of *Madrid*; for I heard, from I know not what Philosopher, that the Countrey in which we are Born hath an Influence upon us; so that Mountainous rough Places breed rough ill-natur'd Persons; and the smooth and pleasant those that are mild and courteous; and *Madrid* being a plain, smooth Countrey, gives some Encouragement to me that she is of an easy, complying Temper. This I will allow you to do with all my Heart, says *Don Felix*, and so leaving the Doctor somewhat reform'd from his Heretical Opinions, he promis'd him his Assistance in performing this Enterprize.

C H A P. XI.

*He makes a strange Tryal of the Constancy
of his Mistriss, but proves very Unsuccess-
ful in the Conclusion.*

ON *Felix* having gain'd ground on the Doctor by his Arguments resolv'd to pursue the Affair; and Doctor *Cenudo* being still very confus'd in his Thoughts and Resolutions, confesses to him he was so wholly possest with Love that he had no Place for Reason, desiring him who was free from that Passion, to give him his Judgment freely in the Matter, and that he resolv'd to be as pliable as Wax to his Advice. *Don Felix* making use of the Liberty that was given him; there is but one Tryal, Doctor, to be made, said he, of *Donna Dorothea* which may occasion you any Trouble, and that is to know whether she be of a constant, or of a fickle Temper, to which end we will use this Stratagem; she already believes that she is in some Nobleman's House; you may feign your self to be the German Ambassador, and invite all your Friends to a splendid Dinner, cloath'd like Ambassadors of several Nations, as of *England*, *France*, *Savoy*, *Venice*, *Turkey*, and *Persia*; let it be in a Room where she may hear and observe all that passes, and believe it is real; this being done let me alone to manage her, and you will soon see the effect of it.

The Doctor embrac'd him for this Contrivance, and approv'd of it so well that he cry'd, By the Life of the Emperor this is what I could have wish'd for; giving him a Charge to prosecute it instantly, and invite the Guests, and likewise to provide some Stage-Players to come in their Habits, for carrying on the Intrigue; *Don Felix* did so, and the next day

Eight jolly Blades met together in a Room richly furnish'd, where they all sate down at the Table in great State to an excellent Banquet, their Discourses becoming them admirable well. *Donna Dorothea* stood in an inner Chamber at Bo-peep, accompanied with *Don Felix*, the counterfeit Steward of the pretended German Ambassador; she was astonish'd and almost distracted to see her self in that lavish Condition; which *Don Felix* perceiving, 'Tis now high time, Madam, said he, that you should be acquainted with what you are to expect. *Arnaldo Boni*, my Lord Ambassador of Germany, fell passionately in love with your Beauty, as he happened to have a Sight of you once at the *Prado*, where you were slaying the Gallants with the Glances of your piercing Eyes; and the Majesty of his Character not permitting him to wait on you at your House, and court you pursuant to his violent Passion, he resolv'd with the Assistance of his Friends and Servants to surprize you, and carry you off; which you know was too well Perform'd, it having cost you many a Sigh and Tear; yet he abhor'd to offer any Force to your Will, it being below great Princes to use any Compellation in Love; he is only ambitious that you should comply with his Desires, and amongst other Pledges of his Affection, he freely bestows upon you all the Noble Furniture of this House, and will engage to make you so wealthy that you shall be coveted in Marriage by so many Gallants, and may choose him for a Husband for whom you have the greatest Inclination; and you are sensible that for gaining this nothing will be miss'd.

At this Discourse *Dorothea's* Face was covered with blushes, so that she knew not what Reply to make; but being a little recover'd; with many Arguments, mix'd with Sighs and Tears (which I forbear to

relate, for fear of making my Reader Melancholly, she discovered the Nobleness of her Spirit, and the Greatness of her Courage, telling him, That the Treasures of all Germany were not a sufficient Recompence for the loss of her Chastity ; Don Felix seem'd very angry, and assur'd her that her Refusal would be of very ill Consequence ; but she continued immovable, and would not give the least Encouragement to his Proposal. He then left her with such Gestures as threatned her with ill Usage for this disdainful Repulse ; and coming to the Ambassador of Germany whisper'd something in his Ear, which the rest of them observing desir'd to be acquainted with ; particularly the Ambassador of the Grand Signor, who holding a large Cup of Wine in his Hand, *I swear*, said he, by Mahomet, not to drink this Health till I know the Cause that has discompos'd your Excellency. The Doctor, or Ambassador (sitting hid behind a large pair of Spectacles, which cover'd his whole Face, and yet there remain'd enough to have serv'd his Neighbour) gave such a Thump upon the Table, as threw all upon it to the Ground, and counterfiting a desperate Passion, cry'd out aloud ; Bring her hither presently, for I will have her Beheaded.

Don Felix went instantly like an Executioner, to fetch down the Lady, which he soon did, Fear having almost struck her Dead ; so that she could only ask whether the Ambassador was a Christian or not ; and then was brought before the Tribunal, just at the time when the German Ambassador was in a Rage, tearing to pieces a Spick and Span new flaxen Beard which cost him a Crown ; when Donna Dorothea saw him so furious, she verily imagin'd the Knife was already at her Throat ; and she did not think much amiss, for the German snatching up a Knife which he found among the Fragments of the ruin'd Table, went toward her like an enraged

son ; but the handsome Man did his Arm'd sacrifice of the
meaning of the
mysterious Per-
sador became
tentation ga-
r.

" May it
tune happy-
ful Wenc-
Richest Je-
Germany, t-
pid and fo-
not a Jewe-
this is it th-
Senses ; le-
among you-
serves, an-
Consequen-
Woman sh-
and to insi-
Chastity.
ter'd this,

d Gestures
s notoriou-
ent. Afte-
, who p-
at it was
bed of all
n Limb fr-
ch a Rebel-
mbassadors
terrify oth-
th ; but
s no Ocea-
more W-

on; but the Ambassador of France, who was an
handsome Man, and an admirer of Ladies, with-
drew his Arm, and for that time suspended her be-
ing sacrific'd; they then all cry'd out, What's the
meaning of this Uproar and Disturbance before so many
mysterious Persons; at this Reproof the German Am-
bassador became a little calmer, and intreating their
attention gave the following Account of the Af-
fair.

" May it please your Excellencies, I by ill Fort-
une happened to fall in love with this mean pitiful
Wench, I stole her, and offered her the
Richest Jewels which I brought with me from
Germany, to answer my Passion; but she is so stu-
pid and foolish as to say, that my Nation hath
not a Jewel which can deserve her Compliance;
this is it that distracts me, and puts me out of my
Senses; let then the most prudent and temperate
among you all, judge what Punishment she de-
serves, and consider calmly of what pernicious
Consequence it would be, if a vain inconsidereate
Woman should be so injurious to an Ambassador,
and to insist with so much Impudence upon her
Chastity. The German Ambassador had scarce-
ly declar'd this, when they seem'd to signify by their
Gestures and mysterious Signs, that the Crime
was notorious, and worthy of exemplary Punish-
ment. After a little Pause, the Persian Ambassa-
dor, who pretended to be an Eunuch, declar'd,
that it was of great Importance for the publick
Good of all Nations, that such a Woman should be
torn Limb from Limb, for being so insolent, and
such a Rebel to Love; and that every one of the
Ambassadors should carry home a piece with him
to terrify other Women in his own Country there-
with; but another prudently alleg'd, that there
was no Occasion for it, since he suppos'd there were
more Women in the World of her Humour.

144 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

The English Ambassador, a Person of a mild, ingenuous Temper gave his Opinion, that instead of Death her Statue ought to be set up of shining Brass in Memory of so much Virtue, that a Woman should be found, who was such a Contemner of Money. He of Venice was for making her a Nun, and drawing out of the Cloyster the first Nun that should come to hand in her stead, who without doubt would not be so obstinate and contumacious.

In such hazard was the Life of this disdainful Lady ; and at length after a warm Debate it was carried by the Majority of Votes, that she should be put to Death, since tearing her piece-meal, and putting her into a Nunnery were equal Punishments, one being as bad as the other. The Sentence being thus decreed, Don Felix hurried her away more dead than alive for Fear ; whilst they were preparing for her Execution, the Ambassador of Germany made the following Oration to the Illustrious Congress or Assembly.

" Most worthy, faithful Friends, I have courted
" this Lady (the Glory of the Age she lives in)
" with a perfect Love, I have acquainted her therewith,
" and confirm'd it with the same Assurances
" that a Person of my Quality ought to do.
" yet neither Time, nor my kind Treatment have
" induc'd her to favour my Addresses, her Obsinacy
" being as hard as Brass ; therefore since neither
" Intreaties nor Protestations avail'd any thing,
" proceeded to Threats and Violence ; however
" did but flatter my Imagination to suppose that
" Fear should have more Influence upon her than
" Love ; you have now been Witnesses of her Con-
" stancy, and more than Humane Courage ; she
" hath past such a Tryal as might be said to equal
" if not exceed that of *Lucretia* or *Portia* ; But it
" my Misfortune, that I never was in love with any
" Woman, though of ever so mean a Condition."



and altoget
she became
times I h
sites by m
rate Rem
suffers hi
But her o
nation ; t
temptible
ed if she
stant and
He who ti
of the So
Person, li
of Fortun
vours upo
he that ha
ledge, th



and altogether unacquainted with Courtship, but she became colder than Ice to me. An Hundred times I have been resolving to compass my Desires by marrying, which though it be a desperate Remedy, I shall do but as a Patient, who suffers his Arm to be cut off to save his Life. But her mean Fortune contradicts this Determination; she's a Poor Woman, a Woman of contemptible Quality, yet this is ~~not~~ to be considered if she be discreet, if she be beautiful, constant and chaste, above all celebrated in History. He who thinks that Riches, and the Ornament of the Soul are to be found in One and the same Person, little knows the Freaks and Irregularities of Fortune; since she seldom bestows her Favours upon those that best deserve them. Now he that has but a Grain of Sence must acknowledge, that since Matters are thus, I have made

146. *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

" a Happy Choice of the chief and most sovereign
" Goods ; for this reason I assembled you together ;
" for this cause I feign'd my self in such a Rage as
" astonish'd you. The boasting of my Wealth,
" nor the shew of my Cruelty could not shake
" her firm and undaunted Breast ; What greater
" Testimony can there be of her Virtue, and the
" Happiness of my Election ? give me then your
" Opinions freely ; for though you may think I am
" too much bias'd, and sway'd by my own Appe-
" petite, I do assure you I am willing to submit
" to better Judgments, and more mature Coun-
" cels.

They all applauded the Doctor's Plot with Signs
of Admiration ; *Is this the Fool ?* cryes One ; *How*
few such ingenious Men have we in the World, says
another ! Assuredly, adds a Third, *he has a notable*
Head-piece of his own. Thus was his Doctorship
commended by all the Monarchies of the Universe ;
who, after Consultation what was fittest to be done
in the Business, unanimously concluded, That it
was convenient to undeceive the afflicted Bride, and
that calling together the Kindred and Friends of
both Parties, the Match should be made up ; after
this the Ambasidors took their Leaves, and the
Doctor remain'd very well pleas'd and contented
with their Resolution.

The next Morning his Affections carried him to
the Lodgings of *Dorothea*, whom he found much
disorder'd and distract'd ; our Gallant being now
without any Disguise either on his Face or Body,
saluted her as a new com'd Servant, betwixt a frown-
ing and a Timorous Air : *Dorothea* could not at
first call him to mind, her late Terrors had so di-
stracted her ; but hearing his Voice, she sighed and
lamented her self, and as soon as she could speak ;
*Perhaps, says she, thou art the Officer that these Bar-
barians have appointed to take away my life ?* *Pri-*

Fools have Fortune. 147

come near, for I perceive already that you seem infat to see the Revenge of my Modesty and Reservedness put into your Hands ; but I beseech you hear me One Word, before you give the Fatal Stroke, not to ask for Mercy, but to vindicate my Reputation. The Doctor was going to assure her that he came with a different Purpose, but Dorothea's Imagination was so prepossess'd with Dread, that falling on her Knees, she intreated him with great Tenderness to suffer her to speak a few Words.

" Do not rejoice, said she, that you have an Opportunity to revenge your self, in regard I have done you no Injury ; you have courted me some few Weeks, and pretend I have wrong'd you, because I have made no Return to your Desires. This is an unjust Complaint, for you have attempted me either for Licentious or Honourable Ends ; if for the first, no Reward is due, it deserves no Favour, for 'tis a manifest Injury, since it conceals Villany under the Covert of Flattery. To the Second all Complaisance is due in a modest Way ; and this I have complied with ; had I been too easy and fond, after you thought me so reserv'd, you would have undervul'd my Love, and have had a low Esteem of what you so much extol'd. You will say there can be no Love without Hopes, and yet I did not altogether deprive you of them, but only delay'd till I found my self to have greater Inclination to change my Condition than I have at present ; and if I must Die for this, it is not my Crime, but my Misfortune, and I shall suffer innocently, and with the greatest Injustice.

At these Words, and the Tears that accompanied them, the Gallant was disarm'd, and comforting Dorothea, assur'd her he came not to take away her Life, but give his Soul to her. She con-

priz'd, was very inquisitive to know the meaning of all the foregoing Passages ; how he came thither, and what Business he had with her ; he with a few obliging Expressions acquainted her, that he was the Person who had carried her away, and kept her conceal'd so long to her great Trouble and Affrightment ; intimating now and then in his Discourse to sweeten his Fault, that it was her want of Love to him which occasion'd it. He then gave her an Account of all his Contrivances, the Secret of his Riches, and of his being Master of Four Thousand Crowns a Year, and his Reasons for concealing the same ; this he repeated very often, as if every Crown had been a Lawyer to plead his Cause ; expecting that his Mistress would have embrac'd him with open Arms, and approaching nearer prepar'd to recieve her ; but the Young Lady, with a great deal of Courage, gave him so rude a Blow upon



the Breast, that he fell backward flat on the Ground, his Head now aking as well as his Heart ; recover-

ing himself after a while, and getting upon his Feet, Dorothea thus discourst him ;

" If Wills and Inclinations could be purchased
" with Money as other Goods are, possibly mine
" would run the hazard of being procured by your
" Riches, of which you boast so much ; but the
" deliciousness of having a great Estate, whereby
" to be possesst of all that this World reckons Happi-
" pines, has no such Power over me ; you, Sir,
" can pretend to no Merit whereby to gain my
" Will, or procure my Love ; for it is an unac-
" countable method of shewing your Love and
" Affection to me, to endanger the loss of my Re-
" putation, threaten me with Violence, and
" bring me to the point of Death ; this favours
" more of Abhorrency than of Love ; I will ne-
" ver yield up my self to a Man, who affists him-
" self with Power and Deceit to conquer Modesty
" and Chastity ; and I would have you know,
" that I esteem my self Happier without the Estate
" which you so much glory in, than if I was pos-
" sesst of it ; for I shall live more happily with One
" that is my Equal, than to be a Slave to your Hu-
" mours because of your Riches ; since then you
" have acted in this Affair like an impudent Clown,
" and a treacherous Villain, you shall pine and
" Dye without Hopes for any Relief that I will
" ever afford you.

She had gone on, the Sense of seeing her self thus abus'd and affronted hid so much transport-ed her, had she not been interrupted by the Doctor : " If you imagine, Madam, said he, that
" there can be any durab'e Love without Inclin-
" ation, and mutual Correspondence, you are much
" mistaken ; never fear Lady, never fear, that
" you shall be belov'd to Excess oy him, whom you
" so execrably abhor ; I must needs confess my
" obstinate persisting herein hath done me but an

150 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

" ill Office, and branded me for a Fool, in having
" a Kindness for One who never car'd. for me;
" whilst I had any hopes, I took all the Measures that
" I thought proper for obtaining my Desires ; but
" since I now find that instead of Roses I am like to
" obtain nothing but Thistles, do not suppose that
" I am so insensible as not to withdraw my Affec-
" tions ; however you may be certain, that in al-
" this you have not run any Hazard in your Repu-
" tation, since my Love hath hitherto so carefully
" secur'd it. Return then to your own House,
" and suppose your self Mistress of that which
" you leave, without any other Obligation than
" that you have entered into it, and have Power to
" command it.

He had no sooner ended his Farewell Compliment, when calling Two of his Servants, and whispering privately to *Don Felix* who came with them, he took his last Leave of *Donna Dorothea*, not without the Admiratio[n] of those that beheld it ; and it being Night, they carried her, or rather she walk'd home, waited on by *Don Felix*, and other Servants, who as they were instructed by the crafty Gallant parted with her at the Porch of her own House ; where we will also leave her, going in and crying for Joy, with her Father, Mother, and Kin-dred.

C H A P. XII.

He is made a Wise Man by his Friends and Acquaintance, and swears Obedience to the Laws of Discretion.

ONE Evening all the Doctor's Acquaintance met together at his House to make merry, and have a Game at a Spanish Play call'd *El Hombre*, or the Man; some plaid, others look'd on, and the Doctor happen'd to be *El Hombre*, as having the highest Card; one amongst the rest, who was a pretender to Wit, and delighted more to quibble and talk than to mind the Play, being unwilling to lose the Opportunity of shewing his rare Qualifications, said, "There is a great deal of Reason Sir that you should be *El Hombre*, or the Man, since the Ingenuity you have lately shewn, ju^{stly} entitles you to it. The rest took occasion to second him in commending *Cenudo* for some time, and at length they all concluded that the late Passage about his Mistress was the most discreet Action that had ever been perform'd. " 'Tis well, said the Doctor, " (with a great deal of Gravity) that you joke upon me for my Discretion, who have been so cry'd up for a Fool; 'tis much that you don't reckon it an inconsiderate thing, or attribute it to the Loss of my Beloved; for this too is the Property of Fools. This Discourse produc'd an Uproar among them; and they affirm'd with some Oaths; that he was as Wise a Man as any that walk'd in the *Prado*; One of them, a pleasant witty Fellow cry'd, This Scruple of the Doctors about his Wit is not to be disregarded; and since he is jealous of his Reputation, I find no other Remedy against it than to have him take the Degree of a

152 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

Wise Man, especially since we have in our Company Discreet Doctors, Poets, Criticks, Flatterers and Wits, so that nothing is wanting to perform the same.

I accept of this Favour with all my Heart, said the Doctor, with a merry Countenance, because it will put an end to this dangerous Play ; for 'tis a terrible thing for any body to be *El Hombre*, and in Conclusion will cost him some Money ; Well, says another, you must not suppose that this matter is done of a sudden, for I have brought with me the Laws you must observe to be counted Wise. It seems then, reply'd the Doctor, you did not come to make Tryal whether I am a Wise Man or no, but to dub me one as they dub a Knight ; and indeed this is the most certain and easy Way ; for I assure you there are few in the World who merit to be call'd Wise Men ; but 'tis like making a Knight, wherein the famous Exploits of him and his Ancestors are not consider'd, but he is instructed what to do in compliance with his Order of Knighthood ; so I shall likewise be highly honour'd with your declaring me a Wise Man since you find some Glimmerings that I may be so.

Then one of the briskest in the Company taking a Book call'd *Lope de Vega's Plays*, made him kneel down, and giving him Three Blows on the Fore-head therewith, added, *Doctor Cenudo wilt thou be a Wise Man ?* He answer'd, *I will : Heaven make thee One*, said the Other, for *I cannot*. All applauded the Ceremony, and the President commanded every Man to sit down in his Order and hear the Constitutions of Wit and Discretion Read, as follows.

" We Discretion, Queen of the Universe, To
" you Wise Men of the first, and Novices of the
" lowest Rank, Greeting ; Know ye that we having
" reciev'd Information of the Follies and Absur-

" dities,
" pleasant
" ing ne
" whence
" Wit an
" orders,
" Laws a
" notice
" pleasur

I. In th
ence, tha
other Peo
tentio
kon these
because w
normitie
It being t
excuse th
others.

II. Th
is in Lo
the Tim
pain of B
a Flatter

III. T
Academ
Forms o
vulgar S
know no

IV. Be
Gentleme
are com
mand th
some wo
does, be
does not

V. Th
ral time

" dities, which those of you that are Lovers of
" pleasant Conversation daily commit, by invent-
" ing new ways of speaking and acting, from
" whence much Damage is occasion'd to Humane
" Wit and Learning; for the Redress of these Dis-
" orders, we ordain and establish the following
" Laws and Constitutions, which you are to take
" notice of, and obey under Pain of our high Dis-
" pleasure.

I. In the first Place, because we find by Experience, that an ill Tongue, and a busy Censurer of other Peoples Actions is guilty of having an ill Intention, we ordain that such Persons shall not reckon themselves Discreet, but are arrant Fools; because without suspicion of Malice many more Enormities may be charg'd upon such Back-biters. It being the Design of these perverse Creatures to excuse their own Crimes by proclaiming those of others.

II. That no Man, who is inclin'd to Marry or is in Love, shall reckon himself Wise, during the Time that his amorous Fits continue; upon pain of being accounted a Clown, a Coxcomb, and a Flatterer.

III. That no Wise Man keep in his House, *The Academy of Complements, Secretary in Fashion*, or any Forms of Letters, nor write according to the dull, vulgar Stile, least he be thought stupid, and to know no better.

IV. Being inform'd That in Visits made by Young Gentlemen to Ladies, many notorious Absurdities are committed in unnecessary Questions, we command that it shall not be lawful to ask any handsome Woman, or that thinks her self so, how she does, because it is an Intimation that we think she does not look well.

V. That Two or more Visitants coming in at several times, they that came first be obliged to go away.

154 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

way first, on Pain of being esteemed Clowns for Three Years if they do not conform thereto.

VI. That it being the *Spanish* Fashion for a Man to boast that he is of a Melancholy Constitution, thereby to make the World believe that he is very Wise ; we ordain that he should not be reckon'd so, unless he be likewise Hollow-Ey'd, Beetle-Brow'd, Thin-Jaw'd ; or shall have little or no Money in his Pocket, for such have Liberty not only to be Melancholy, but to brag of it too.

VII. That none shew respect to One that sneezes, since grave Physicians tell us that sneezing is an Expulsion of humid Excrements, and we may as well make the same Compliment after any other Evacuation of the Body.

VIII. That no Men pretend to use Scraps of *Latin*, Thiums of Poetry, or Raptures of Rhetorick in his Discourse, but to talk Christian-like, as his Conscience shall dictate, and as his Fore-fathers, who are dead and gone taught him.

IX. That he believe nothing that shall be told him, unless it be a Mystery of Faith ; however we give him leave that out of Complaisance he may pretend to believe all he hears.

X. That he change his Cloaths as the Weather alters, without considering the time of the Year, because every hot day is really Summer, and every cold Day Winter.

XI. That he wear no right Diamonds, Emeralds, or other Jewels, when he can have them of Glass and Pebbles ; in regard their Lustre is the same, and they are much cheaper.

XII. We charge the Consciences of formal Courtiers, that they cool not their Wine at *Christmas*, who when their Bottles are frozen, and their Wine as cold as Ice, yet cool it more.

XIII. That if in making a Visit to a Person of Quality, a Gentleman should have a Letter brought

him, he it immed-
ly, becau-
of it.

XIV. he had f-
hath eate-
tony.

XV. T
fashion'd
Young L

XVI. p-
erstitution
of being

XVII. any Virt
Rubies, I
of to kn-
there is
theccarys
them Ric

XVIII.
Family,
often ap
originall

XIX.
and an O
an Oath,
as in the
mous Fo
Civil So

XX.
they def
and will
mended.

XXI.
lick Off-
out Mo

him, he shall have the Liberty to open and read it immediately, without being counted unmannly, because he may be in pain to know the Contents of it.

XIV. That no discreet Person ask another what he had for Dinner, or Supper; or tell what he hath eaten, such Discourses favouring of Gluttony.

XV. That they talk not to one another of new fashion'd Cloaths or Dresses, since this is reserv'd to Young Ladies.

XVI. That Wise Men ought to disregard Old Superstitious Fables, Dreams and Omens, upon pain of being counted egregious Fools.

XVII. That a Wise Man do not believe there is any Virtue in Stones, unless they be Diamonds, Rubies, Emeralds, &c. Or those that are made use of to knock out the Brains of an Enemy. Or that there is any Virtue in Herbs but such as the Apothecarys use, since they have the Virtue to make them Rich.

XVIII. Let none boast of the Nobility of their Family, nor reckon up their Pedigree, since they often appear to be Upstarts, and to be descended originally from the meanest of the People.

XIX. And because some count it an Elegance and an Ornament to their Discourse, to throw out an Oath, a Curse, or to Damn themselves as much as in them lies, We declare them to be Blasphemous Fools, and not fit to be entertain'd in any Civil Society.

XX. That no Man speak ill of Women although they deserve it, since it is but odd Merchandise, and will hardly go off, unless it be prais'd and commended.

XXI. That he seek not to be prefer'd to any publick Office without Favour; nor court a Lady without Money.

These and many other Constitutions, which are omitted, as peculiar to the Spanish Nation, the new made Wife Man promis'd Obedience to, and began to appear oue amongst his Friends that Night, giving them a Splendid Treat, his Jests having as good a Relish as his Dishes, which I shall not mention least I should provoke my Readers Appetite. 'Tis enough that the Supper did satisfy a Legion of Poets ; which is a sufficient Commendation ; and so concluded this merry Bout, and Doctor Cenudo ceas'd to be a Fool, and began to act the part of a Wise Man. Would you then have an Hundred Men vouch for your Wisdom, give them a good Supper, and though you are a meer Pack-Horse they'l extol your Wit, if you are loaded with Turkeys and Partridges.

C H A P. XIII.

Doctor Cenudo is apprehended by the Malice of his Enemies, and committed to Prison for a Conjuror. But at length is Honourably acquitted.

Dorothea with blushing Cheeks told the whole Story of her being surpriz'd, and Detention to her Parents, and had no great Trouble to make 'em believe her, for as being part of their Soul they understood her Temper and from thence were assur'd there was no forcing of her Will ; but the World was not so easily satisfied, who knew how many Nights she had been lamented at her Father's House, and entertain'd at another Man's ; Fame had dispers'd the News all over the Town, and at length the Licentiate Campuzano heard it, and who

it is a W
since he wa
been made
selves by b
Confidence
ture that
was so po
which he l
undertook
imaginig
Fool ; w
thine, as
any Damn
put upon
a Share in
they had
thie. A
at Court,
Dorothea,
are disap
with Pat
yours, a
were not
Campu
in the ca
he wante
self with
going in
Judge h
a Conjur
kept a F
sand Vi
that he
other M
which li
liev'd a
prehend

it is a Wonder was not first acquainted with it, since he was turn'd all to Ears from the time he had been made such an Ass of. Fools torment themselves by being confident, and gain nothing by it. Confidence made our Arrogant *Andalusian* conjecture that the Beautiful *Dorothea* was his own, and was so possest with that Fancy, that the Day in which he had notice the Lady was stoln away, he undertook to search for her upon his own Account, imagining she was ravish'd from him: Confident Fool; was it not better to suppose she was not thine, as really she was not? Whereby in case of any Damage, or Injury done to her, or Contempt put upon her, thou wouldest not have had so great a Share in her Sufferings, nor wouldest have thought they had taken her out of thy Bed, as it were, from thee. And you Gentlemen that sollicit for Places at Court, do not sue for them as *Campuzano* did for *Dorothea*, that so you may not be grieved if you are disappointed; but arm your selves before-hand with Patience, and consider that they are not yet yours, and that if they be given to others they were not taken from you.

Campuzano was now become a Lyon for Courage in the cause of *Donna Dorothea*, and percieving that he wanted Paws to prey withal he contented himself with roaring, tho' sore against his Will; but going in a great Rage to the *Zeniente* or Deputy Judge he confidently affirms that Doctor *Cenudo* was a Conjuror, a Sorcerer, and a Magician; That he kept a Familiar Spirit, and daily committed a Thousand Violencies by Virtue of his Witch-crafts; that he ravish'd Virgins, made himself Master of other Mens Wealth, and perform'd other Miracles which his Malice dictated to him. The Judge believ'd all he said, and the same Night went out with a Guard of Serjeants and other Officers to apprehend the Doctor, the Licentiate accompanying

158 *The Lucky Idiot : Or,*

ing him. They beset his House on all Sides, and using the Name of *Felix*, by *Campuzano's* Advice the Door was soon opened, and some staying below, the *Teniente* or Judge went up to the Doctor's Bedside, where he found him fast asleep, and fearing if he should wake, he would call some cursed Spirit to his Assistance, commanded Four of the Bayliffs to bind him Hand and Foot, which they soon effected.

At the Noise they made, the miserable Doctor awak'd, and finding himself seiz'd and shackl'd, and his Chamber full of Halberds, being extreainly amaz'd he recommended himself to all the Saints he could think of with great Devotion. The Judge being much afraid that he was Conjuring and muttering Charms, fancied himself already in the Hobgoblins Clutches; therefore putting a Gag into the Prisoner's Mouth to prevent farther Danger, he sent him to Jayl, with a Squadron of lusty Fellows to guard him, charging them to put him into safe Custody in the Dungeon; the *Teniente* staying with an Attorney, to find out the Magical Instruments of Mischief and Witchcraft.

He sent several of his Attendants to search over all the House, while he continued with the Licentiate and the rest of his Train above; who casting their Eyes on a Cabinet curiously wrought which stood at the Doctor's Beds-head, broke it open, suspecting to find some infernal Charms in it. The *Teniente* examin'd the Drawers, and ask'd *Campuzano* if he knew what *Cotjurations* were, who told him, they were certain Prayers or Invocations in Rhimes, and that in a Commission wherein he was concern'd, for discovering a Company of Witches, he had attain'd much Knowledge of those cursed Practices. Looking into One of the Drawers they found some Papers, of which the Licentiate reading some Lines; cry'd out, *These are*

rhimes Sir,
ions. The
ions as Rh
would prove
Hely-day
Doctor Cenu
several time
ounce'd any
ols, which
them, and
he did not
raise any
ake any v
begin to r
inthes:

Look down
The humble
And though
Let come fu

Does no
adores Ven
ate. The
Skill in Co
plicity an
Head. H

Lay Cynt
Which only
They Gent
And maki

This P
ate, and
self shou
take not
he makes

Rhimes Sir, as I live we have found out the Conjurations. The Judge who knew as little of Conjurations as Rhimes was in great hopes the Rhimes would prove Conjurations, that so he might make Hely-day for the Mob in the Market Place to see Doctor Cenudo hang'd ; after he had cross'd himself several times, said some devout Orisons, and renounc'd any implicite Contract with Signior Dia, which possibly these Charms might contain in them, and declar'd with many Affirmations, that he did not design to do Mischief to any one, nor raise any evil Spirit, nor make the foul Fiend take any visible Shape or Converse with him ; he began to read the pretended Conjunction, which ran thus :

Look down thou Faithless Mother of Love and see
The humble Suppliant of thy Majesty,
And though I with no Offerings do appear,
Let come full charg'd with Sorrow, Grief and Fear, &c.

Does not your Worship observe how the Villain adores *Venus* the Mother of Love, says the Licentiate. The *Teniente* was amaz'd, and having little Skill in Conjurations, he believ'd what e'er the Simplicity and Ignorance of *Campuzano* put into his Head. He reads on,

Lay Cynthia thy deceitful Pencils by,
Which only feign to ease my Misery.
They Gentle make what's Cruel, Fierce and Wild,
And make that Wild which Gentle is and Mild.

This Passage is somewhat dark, says the Licentiate, and had I not studied Humane Learning I myself should never have unfolded the Mystery of it; take notice, Signior *Teniente*, of this Conjunction he makes to the Moon ; How ! to the Moon re-plies

plies the Judge, I find no such thing, neither is there a Word here, whereby it may be conjectur'd; the Word *Cynthia*, answers *Campuzano*, your Worship must know, signifies the Moon or *Diana*, whom the Heathens ador'd by the name of *Cynthia*, for being Born in the Mountain *Cynthus*; and he now makes a Prayer to her as the Ancient Sorcerers did, that she would come down and moisten and give Virtue to the Herbs with which they use to compound their Magical Poysons. At this Instant came up the Ministers of Wrath who had been searching the House, more to plunder it of any thing they could lay their hands on, than to make any Discovery of what the Doctor was accus'd of. They brought in a great number of Cloaths for Devils, Foxes-Tails, Wolves Heads, Scullis, Masks, and other such Trumpery, which the Doctor, who I tell you plainly was no Conjurer, but a Man of a pleasant Humour, delighted to divert himself with upon Occasion.

His Friend *Don Felix* hearing of the Tribulation he was in, aplyed himself to the Judge, acquainting him that the whole Charge against the Doctor was frivolous; assuring him that he was an ignorant Fool, and an Idiot, and as such a one had spent his Life, his Time, and Estate, in Books, Pictures, Devils Cloaths, and such idle Fooleries, having a particular Temper of his own, and retiring from the Converse, and common Conversation with Mankind. This being prov'd by a Cloud of Witnesses, the *Teniente* was very well satisfied with the Fancy of his odd Accoutrements, and that the Papers found in his Closet were no Conjurations nor Imprecations, but Ballads and Sonnets written by himself, which made his Folly still more apparent; he therefore discharg'd him from his Confinement, and condemn'd *Campuzano* to pay a considerable Fine for scandalizing him. So that after

Three Days, Doctor Cenudo (who had been like one under Water all that time) was again visible and free'd from his Accusation by the Vigilance of his Friend Don Felix, who coming to visit him embrac'd him with much Affection, and related to him the welcome Tydings of his Deliverance. He much wondred to hear it, not but that his own Innocence secur'd him from Danger, but that the Negotiation was so short.

Don Felix satisfied all his Doubts, not without some Laughter, relating to him all the Passages of the Process, which having heard, Well, says the Doctor, *I durst to have sworn that such good Fortune would attend me for being a Fool*; he then recall'd all the Passages of his Life past, and declar'd that all the Prosperities and good Successes he ever had, were occasion'd by his Follies, and firmly resolv'd to be guilty of many that he might continue to be Happy. He then took his leave of his Friends who entertain'd him in Prison, and with Joy to see himself free came to visit me at my Lodging, and to rejoice in his Liberty: Again repeating it to me as a Secret, that all his Felicities proceeded from his being a Fool, and that he was never unfortunate but when he err'd and stray'd into the by-paths of Wisdom, which he would carefully avoid for the future; having made a Vow to Folly that if he escap'd the late Misfortune he would profess himself a Fool all the Remainder of his Days; which I understand he perform'd, and slipt out of the World without any Trouble. Take Courage then Reader, and observe his Follies; possibly they may have the Virtue to make him Happy that hears them, as well as he that commits them.

THE CONTENTS.

C H A P. I.

D. Pedro Cenudo gives an Account
of his Parentage, Birth, and Educa-
tion.

Page

C H A P. II.

The Follies he committed while he was with
the Curate his Uncle.

12

C H A P. III.

He Robs his Uncle of Four Hundred Pounds
and goes to Madrid.

21

C H A P. IV.

At Madrid he enters himself in the Service
of an Aragonian Gentleman. He relates
the Follies he was guilty of in that Station.

30

C H A P. V.

He prosecutes his History, and relates what
happened to him in the Court, being a Page.

40

C H A P. VI.

He goes to a new Master, and passes the
Examination of a Crew of Sham Doctors
at Salamanca.

64

C H A P. VII.

He proves Treacherous to his Master, in the
matter of his Amours, and engages him

The Contents.

in a Quarrel, which oblig'd them to des-
part from Salamanca. 81

C H A P. VIII.

He is made a Judge, and gives an Account
of his Male-Administration in that Of-
fice. With several other diverting A-
musements. Page 90.

C H A P. IX.

A Surprizing Adventure happen'd to him,
which turn'd to his great Advantage, on-
ly for being reckon'd a Fool. 124

C H A P. X.

He falls in Love with a Young Lady, sur-
prises her Mother and she coming from
Mass, and secretly detains his Mistriss
in his own House. 130

C H A P. XI.

He makes a strange Tryal of the Constancy
of his Mistriss; but proves very unsuc-
cessful in the Conclusion. 140

C H A P. XII.

He is made a Wise Man by his Friends and
Acquaintance; and swears Obedience to
the Laws of Discretion. 151

C H A P. XIII.

He is apprehended by the Malice of his Ene-
mies, and committed to Prison for a Con-
furer; but at length is Honourably ac-
quitted. 156.

F I N I S.

Books Printed for Nath. Crouch at the Bell
against Grocers-Alley in the Poultrey
near Cheapside.

1. **E**nglands Monarchs: Being a Relation of the most remarkable Transactions from Julius Caesar; adorned with Poems, and the Picture of every Monarch from K. William the Conqueror to this time. With a List of the English Nobility, and the number of the Lords and Commons in both Houses of Parliament, and other memorable Passages. Price One Shilling.

2. **T**HE unhappy Princesses, Containing first, The Secret History of Queen Anne Bullen, Mother to Queen Elizabeth of Renowned Memory. With an impartial Account of the first Loves of K. Henry VIII. to that Lady. The Reasons of his withdrawing his Affections from her, and the real causes of her woful and calamitous Death: Including likewise the Divorce of Q. Katharine of Spain. The Fall of Cardinal Woolsey, and several other remarkable Incidents in those Times. Secondly, The Secret History of the Lady J. Gray, who was Proclaim'd Queen of England, France and Ireland; with the Politick Motives, and Inducements at large, for advancing her to the Royal Dignity; which issued in the Death of her Father the Duke of Suffolk; her Father in Law the Duke of Northumberland; her Husband the Lord Gilford Dudley, and her self. And a full Relation of her Admirable Life, Short Reign, and Deplorable Death; her Conference with Fecknam a Romish Priest; her Letters to her Father and Sister, with her last Speech on the Scaffold. By R. B. Enliven'd with Pictures. Price 1 s.

3. **T**HE History of the Lives of those Famous English Divines that were most zealous in Promoting the Reformation; namely, J. Wickliff, J. Frith, T. Bilney, W. Tindal, J. Rogers, L. Sam-

Books Printed for Nath. Crouch.

Bell
rey
f the
re of
o this
l the
oules
Price
first
ellen
ory.
es of
f his
real
inclus
pain
r re
e Se
im'd
n the
ad
d in
her
her
And
sign,
eck-
and
y R.
nous
s in
liff,
aun-

lers, Bishop Hooper, R. Taylor, J. Bradford, Bishop Ridley, Bishop Latimer, J. Philpot, Arch-Bishop Cranmer, J. Fox, Bishop Jewel, B. Gilpin, Arch-Bishop Whitgift, Arch-Bishop Lans. Most of them suffering Martyrdom in defence of the Protestant faith against Romish Idolatry, with Poems and the picture of each Divine. By R. B. Price 1 s.

THE History of Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector. Being an impartial Account of all the Battles, Sieges, &c. Wherein he was engaged in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and of his Civil Administration when he was in supreme Dignity, till his Death. Adorned with Pictures. By R. B. price

THE Wars in England, Scotland and Ireland, containing an impartial Account of all the Battles, Sieges and other remarkable Transactions, Revolutions and Accidents from the beginning of the Reign of King Charles the First, 1625. to the Restoration of King Charles II. And among other Particulars, the Debates and Proceedings in the four first Parliaments of King Charles I. The Murder of the Duke of Buckingham by Felton. The Tumults at Edinburgh in Scotland. The Insurrection of the Apprentices and Seamen, and their assaulting of A. B. Laud's House at Lambeth. Remarks on the Life of the E. of Strafford, and his last Speech. The Death of Arch-Bishop Laud, and others. The Tryal of King Charles I. at large, with his last Speech, at his Suffering. And the most considerable Matters which happened till 1660. with Pictures of several remarkable Accidents. Price One Shilling.

HISTORICAL Remarks and Observations of the ancient and present State of London and Westminster; shewing the Foundations, Walls, Gates, Towers, Bridges, Churches, Rivers, Wards, Halls, Companies, Government, Courts, Hospitals, Schools,

Inn

Books Printed for,

Ians of Court, Charters, Franchises, and Priviledges thereof; with an account of the most remarkable Accidents, as to Wars, Fires, Plagues and other Occurrences, for above Nine Hundred Years past, in and about these Cities; Illustrated with the Arms of the 65 Companies of London, and the time of their incorporating. Price One Shilling.

7. **A**dmirable Curiosities, Rarities and Wonders in England, Scotland, and Ireland, or an account of many remarkable Persons and Places, and likewise of the Battles, Sieges, prodigious Earthquakes, Tempests, Inundations, Thunders, Lightnings, Fires, Murders, and other considerable Occurrences, and Accidents for many Hundred Years past, and among others, the Battle of Bosworth, and the miserable Death of Crook back Richard. The beheading of the Lord Cromwel, and the Earl of Essex. The Rebellion under Ket the Tanner, and his Law and Ordinances in the Oak of Reformation near Norwich. The Lady riding naked thro' Coventry. Together with the natural and artificial Rarities in every County in England, with several Pictures. Pr. 15.

8. **T**HE History of the Kingdom of Scotland, containing an Account of all the Wars, Revolutions, and State Intrigues during the Reigns of 72 Kings and Queens to this time; Intermixt with variety of Accidents, and Events. And a List of the present Nobility of that Kingdom. Illustrated with Pictures. Price one Shilling.

9. **T**HE History of the Principality of Wales in three parts: Containing, 1. An Account of the Ancient Kings and Princes of Britain and Wales, till the final extinguishing of the Royal British Line. 2. Remarks upon the Lives of all the Princes of Wales of the Royal Families of England, from King Edward I. to this Time; particularly of Ed. the black Prince of Wales, who with 30000 English defeated an Army of 100000 French at Cressy; and at Poitiers,

and sold by Nath. Crouch.

with 10000 beat 80000, and took John the French Prisoner. Also of Hen. of Monmouth (afterward Henry V.) who with 13000 routed 9000 French, whose Son Henry VI. was crowned K. of France at Paris. 3. Remarks on the most memorable Persons, Places, and Passages for many Hundred Years past: With the Birth and Actions of Merlin the Welsh Prophet. And the Natural and Artificial Rarities in every County. Pr. 1 s.

THE Unfortunate Court-Favourites of England, Exemplified in some Remarks upon the Lives, Actions and Fatal Fall of divers great Men, who have been Favourites to several English Kings and Queens. Namely, 1. Peirce Gaveston, Favourite to K. Ed. II. 2. Hugh Spencer the Father and Son, both Favourites to King Ed. II. 3. Roger Mortimer Favourite to Q. Isabel, Mother to K. Ed. III. with their private Amours &c. 4. H. Stafford Favourite to Crook-back Richard, with that King's secret Intrigues for usurping the Crown, and murdering his Nephews. Likewise the Character of Jane Shore by Sir T. More who saw her. 5. Cardinal Wolsey. 6. T. L. Cromwell, both Favourites to King Hen. VIII. 7. E. of Essex, Favourite to Q. Eliz. 8. D. of Bucks Favourite to K. James I. and K. Charles I. 9. E. of Strafford, Favourite to K. Charles I. With all their Pictures. Pr. 1 s.

THE English Empire in America: Or, a prospect of her Majesty's Dominions in the West-Indies. Namely, Newfoundland, New-England, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Carolina, Bermudas, Barbuda, Anguilla, Minserrat, Dominica, St. Vincent, Antego, Mevis or Nevis, St. Christophers, Barbadoes, and Jamaica: With an Account of their Discovery, Situation and Product; The Religion and Manners of the Indians, &c. To which is prefixed a Relation of the discovery of the New World, and the Remarkable Voyages of Sebastian Cabot,

Books Printed for,

C. Frobisher, C. Davis, C. Weymouth, C. Hull, C. Hadson, Sir T. Cavendish, the Earl of Cumberland, Sir W. Rawleigh and other English Worthies. With Pictures of the strange Fruits, Birds, Fishes, Insects, Serpents and Monsters found in those parts of the World. Pr. 1 s.

12. **T**HE English Acquisitions in Guinea and East India. Containing, 1. The several Forts and Factories of the Royal African Company, from Sally in South Barbary to the Cape of Good Hope in Africa. 2. The Forts and Factories of the Honourable East-India Company in Persia; the Empire of the Great Mogol; the Kingdom of China, and the Isle of Sumatra. A Description of St. Helena; and the wonderful Voyage of Domingo Gonfales, the little Spaniard, to the World in the Moon; an ingenious Fancy, writ by a Learned Bishop. The Life and Doctrines of Mahomet the Grand Impostor. The Journey of several Englishmen to the top of Pike Teneriff in the Canaries; accounted one of the highest Mountains in the World. The Travels of Ibo Coryat an Englishman to Greece, Egypt, Jerusalem, Babylon, Mount Ararat, Armenia, Persia and Cambaja in the Mogol's Country, where he Died. With an account of the Natives of all these Countries, their Religion, Government, Trade, Marriages, Funerals, strange Customs, &c. Also the Birds, Beasts, Serpents, Monsters and strange Creatures found there; with many other memorable Remarks. With Pictures. Price 1 s.

13. **T**HE English Hero: Or, Sir Francis Drake Revived. Being a full Account of the Voyages, Adventures, and Achievements of that Renowned Commander. As 1. His Voyage in 1572. to Nombre de Dios in the West-Indies, where they saw a Pile of Bars of Silver near 70 foot long, 10 foot broad and 12 foot high. 2. His incompassing the whole World in 1577. in Two Years and Ten Months.

Months, g
ver. 3. H
king the T
na, and S
these Coun
rial. Rev
ed with Pi

14. **T**WO
A
Pilgrims se
fel them i
ro, Alexan
Men in 16
and Mem
Beautified

15 **E**X
naiMutatio
Illustrous
Account
ons, Accide
States and
pictures.

16. **T**H
Hector Son
the Great
peror of A
ral of Isra
Maccabaeus
tiochus. T
8. Charles
of Germany
Being an

and sold by Nath. Crouch.

Months, gaining a vast quantity of Gold and Silver. 3. His Voyage into America in 1585. and taking the Towns of St. Jago, St. Domingo, Carthage-na, and St. Augustine. 4. His last Voyage into these Countries in 1595. With his Death and Burial. Revised, Corrected, Enlarged, and beautified with Pictures. By R. B. Price 1 s.

14. **T**WO Journeys to Jerusalem. Containing, 1. An Account of the Travels of 3 English Pilgrims some Years since, and what Accidents beset them in their Journey to Jerusalem, Grand Cairo, Alexandria, &c. 2. The Travels of 14 English Men in 1699. With the Antiquities, Monuments and Memorable Places mentioned in Scripture. Beautified with Pictures. Pr. 1 s.

15. **E**xtraordinary Adventures of several Famous Men. With the strange Events, and singular Mutations and Changes in the Fortunes of divers Illustrious Places and Persons in all Ages; being an Account of a multitude of stupendious Revolutions, Accidents, and observable Matters in divers States and Provinces throughout the World. With pictures. Price One Shilling.

16. **T**HE History of the Nine Worthies of the World, Three whereof were Gentiles, 1. *Hector* Son of *Priamus* K. of *Troy*. 2. *Alexander* the Great K. of *Macedon*. 3. *Julius Caesar* first Emperor of *Rome*. Three Jews. 4. *Joshua* C. General of *Israel*. 5. *David* K. of *Israel*. 6. *Judas Maccabeus* a valiant Jewish Commander against *Antiochus*. Three Christians. 7. *Arthur* K. of *Britain*. 8. *Charles* the Great, K. of *France*, and Emperor of *Germany*. 9. *Godfrey* of *Bullen*, K. of *Jerusalem*. Being an Account of their Liyes and Victories.

Books Printed for,

With Poems and the Pictures of each Worthy. B.
R. B. Pr. 1 s.

17. **F**emale Excellency: Or, the Lady's Glory Illustrated in the Lives of Nine Famous Women. As 1. Deborah the Prophetess, 2. The Valiant Judith. 3. Q. Esther. 4. The Virtuous Susanna. 5. The Chaste Lucretia. 6. Boadicia Q. of Britain, in the Reign of Nero; containing an Account of the Original Inhabitants of Britain. The History of Danaus and his Fifty Daughters, who murdered their Husbands in one Night. Of the Valour of Boadicia, under whose Conduct the Britains slew 70000 Romans, with other remarkable Particulars. 7. Mariamne Wife of K. Herod. 8. Clotilda Q. of France. 9. Andegona Princess of Spain. Adorned with Poems and Pictures. Price 1 s.

18. **W**onderful Prodigies of Judgment and Mercy, discovered in above 300 memorable Histories, containing 1. Dreadful Judgments upon Atheists, Blasphemers, perjured Villains, &c. As of several forsworn Wretches carried away by the Devil, and how an horrid Blasphemer was turned into a black Dog, &c. 2. The miserable ends of many Magicians, Witches, Conjurers, &c. with divers strange Apparitions and Illusions of the Devil. 3. Remarkable Predictions and Presages of approaching Death, and how the Event has been answerable. 4. The wicked Lives, and woful Deaths of several Popes. 5. Admirable Deliverances from imminent Dangers, and deplorable Distresses at Sea and Land. Lastly, divine Goodness to Penitents, with the dying Thoughts of several famous Men, concerning a future State after this Life. Imbellished with Pictures. Price 1 s.

19. **U**nparallel'd Varieties: Or, the matchless Actions and Passions of Mankind display'd

in near 300
vering the
ship and G
and Fidelit
lity. And
quences.
5. Of Cox
Unchastity
with Figur
20. THE
tions, and
cious Imp
memorabl
cient and
doubted
duces and
Price One

21. **S**u
Or, the
Appeara
an Accou
Prodigi
2. Mirac
ceut Bu
Ages.
and man
with Pi

22. **M**
and Cr
100 Ye
Orange,
Lithuan

and sold by Nath. Crouch.

in near 300 notable Instances and Examples discovering the Transcendent Effects, 1. Of Love, Friendship and Gratitude. 2. Of Magnanimity, Courage and Fidelity. 3. Of Chastity, Temperance and Humanity. And on the contrary, the Tremendous Consequences. 4. Of Hatred, Revenge and Ingratitude. 5. Of Cowardice, Barbarity and Treachery. 6. Of Unchastity, Intemperance and Ambition. Imbellished with Figures. Price One Shilling.

20. **T**HE Kingdom of Darkness: Or, the History of Demons, Specters, Witches, Apparitions, and other supernatural Delusions, and Malicious Impostures of the Devil. Containing near 80 memorable Relations, Foreign and Domestick, Ancient and Modern. Collected from Authors of undoubted Verity. With a Preface against the Sadduces and Atheists of this Age, &c. With Pictures Price One Shilling.

21. **S**urprising Miracles of Nature and Art in Two Parts; containing, 1. Miracles of Nature: Or, the wonderful Signs and Prodigious Aspects and Appearances in the Heavens, Earth and Sea; with an Account of the most Famous Comets, and other Prodigies from the Birth of Christ to this Time. 2. Miracles of Art, describing the most Magnificent Buildings and other curious Inventions in all Ages. With the Seven Wonders of the World, and many other Structures and Rarities. Beautified with Pictures. Price 1 s.

22. **M**artyrs in Flames: Or, the History of Popery, Displaying the horrid Persecutions and Cruelties exercised upon Protestants for many 100 Years past to this time. In Piedmont, France, Orange, Bohemia, Hungary, the Palatinate, Poland, Lithuania, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Holland, Flanders, Scotland,

Books Printed for,

Scotland, Ireland, and England. Also God's Judgments upon Persecutors. With Pictures. Price One Shilling.

23. **T**HE Lucky Idiot: Or, Fools have Fortune. Verified in the Life of D. Pedro de Cenado, the Foolish Spaniard; whose Follies had generally a prosperous Event; but when he pretended to be Wise was usually unfortunate. Improv'd with Variety of Moral Remarks, and diverting Amusements. Written in Spanish by Don Quevedo de Alcalá. Now Rendred into Modern English. By a Person of Quality: Illustrated with Pictures. Price One Shilling.

Miscellanies.

24. **D**elights for the Ingenious. In above Fifty select Emblems, Divine and Moral; curiously engraven on Copper Plates, with Fifty delightful Poems and Lots, for the lively Illustration of each Emblem, whereby Instruction may be promoted by pleasant Recreation: To which is prefix'd a Poem, Intituled, *Majesty in Misery*: Or, an Imploration of the King of Kings, written by King Charles I. in Carisbrook Castle in the Isle of Wight, 1648. With a curious Emblem. Collected by A. B. Price 2 s. 6. d.

25. **E**xcellent Contemplations, Divine and Moral, written by A. L. Capel, with some Account of his Life, his Letters to his Lady, and his last Speech. Also the Speeches of D. Hamilton, and the Earl of Holland, who suffered with him. Price One Shilling.

26. **W**inter Evenings Entertainments. In Two Parts. Containing, 1. Ten pleasant Relas.

Relations
genious Ri
and Moral
ty Pictures
Accomo
One Shilli

27. **E** some very
ing a new
Fables. C
ed Camera
thors. U
for Instruc
and Action

28. **T**he
Prayers, C
in the Wo
on for the
tion; rep
the Sorrow
till he gav
to those C
of this In
tures prop
rimater,
Price 1 S

29. **A**
verlasting
other sma

and sold by Nath. Crouch.

Relations of many notable Accidents. 2 Fifty ingenious Riddles, with Explanations, Observations, and Morals upon each. Enlivened with above Sixty Pictures, for illustrating every Story and Riddle. Accommodated for cheerful Conversation. Price One Shilling.

27. **E**sops Fables in Prose and Verse, with Pictures and proper Morals to every Fable; some very pertinent to the present Times, containing a new Collection of ingenious and delightful Fables. Composed by the famous *Aesop*, the learned *Camerarius*, and other ancient and modern Authors. Useful not only for Diversion, but likewise for Instruction, in the prudent Conduct of our Lives and Actions. By *R. B.* Price One Shilling.

Divinity.

28. **T**HE Divine Banquet: Or, Sacramental Devotions, consisting of Morning and Evening Prayers, Contemplations and Hymns for every Day in the Week, in order to a more solemn Preparation for the worthy Receiving of the Holy Communion; representing the several Steps and Degrees of the Sorrows and Sufferings of our Blessed Saviour, till he gave up the Ghost. Also brief Resolutions to those Objections usually alledged for the Omission of this Important Duty. With 8 curious Sculptures proper to the several parts and Graces. *Imprimatur, Z. Isham. R. P. D. Hen. Episc. Lond.* Price 1 Shilling.

29. **A** Guide to Eternal Glory: Or, brief Directions to all Christians how to attain Everlasting Salvation: To which are added several other small Tracts. Price One Shilling.

Youths

Books Printed for,

30. **Y**ouths Divine Pastime in Two Parts, containing 75 remarkable Scripture Histories, turned into English Verse. With 75 Pictures proper to each Story; very delightful for the virtuous Employing the vacant Hours of Young Persons and preventing vicious Divertisements. With Scripture Hymns on divers Occasions. Price One Shilling.

31. **T**HE Young Man's Calling: Or, the whole Duty of Youth, in a serious and compassionate Address to all Young Persons to remember their Creator in the Days of their Youth. Together with Remarks upon the Lives of several excellent Young Persons of both Sexes ancient as well as modern, who have been famous for Virtue and Piety in their Generations. Namely, On the Lives of *Isaac* and *Joseph* in their Youth. On the Martyrdom of the Seven Sons and their Mother. Of *Romanus* a Young Nobleman, and of divers Holy Virgins and Martyrs. On the Lives of K. Edward VI. Q. Jane, and Q. Elizabeth in her Youth. Of P. Henry Eldest Son to K. James I. and the Young L. Harrington. With 13 curious Pictures, illustrating the several Histories. Price 1 s. 6 d.

32. **T**HE Vanity of the Life of Man represented in the Seven several Stages thereof; with Pictures and Poems exposing the Follies of every Age. Together with several other Poems and Pictures very useful for instructing of Young Persons. By R. B. price 6 d.

33. **A**ntichrist Stormed: Or, the Church of Rome proved to be Mystery Babylon the Great Whore, Rev. 17. by undeniable Arguments, with the Judgment of many ancient and modern Divines, of the Rise and final Ruin of the Beast and

Baby-

Babylon,
so many
By B. Ke

34. **T**H
Devotion
ry Day i
after the
sons of
With Gr
Meat. I

35. **S**A
assisted
their Af
God, in
the Lord
in Devon

36. **J**Ac
O
efficacy o
ty Questi
in Faith,
of scrup
Hypocrit
to this gr
ly Minist

37. **H**
the rema
ny emine
by them
exceeding
God in su

and sold by Nath. Crouch.

Babylon, proving it will be in this present Age ; also many strange Predictions relating to these Times.
By B. Keach. pr. 1 s.

34. **T**HE Devout Souls Daily Exercise in Prayers, Contemplations and Praises, containing Devotions for Morning, Noon and Night, for every Day in the Week ; with Prayers before, at, and after the Holy Communion : And likewise for Persons of all Conditions, and upon all Occasions : With Graces and Thanksgivings before and after Meat. By R. B. price 6 d.

35. **S**acramental Meditations upon divers select places of Scripture, wherein Believers are assisted in preparing their Hearts, and exciting their Affections and Graces when they draw nigh to God, in that most awful and solemn Ordinance of the Lord's Supper. By John Flavel late Minister in Devon, price 1 s:

36. **J**acob wrestling with God, and prevailing : Or, a Treatise concerning the Necessity and efficacy of Faith in Prayer : Wherein divers weighty Questions and Cases of Conscience about praying in Faith, are stated and resolved : For the satisfying of scrupulous Consciences ; Conviction of formal Hypocrites, awakening of all both Weak and Strong to this great Duty of Prayer. By T. Taylor, formerly Minister at St. Edmunds Bury. pr. 1 s.

37. **H**eaven upon Earth : Or, Good News for repenting Sinners. Being an Account of the remarkable Experiences and Evidences of many eminent Christians in several Declarations made by them upon Solemn Occasions. Displaying the exceeding Riches of the Free Grace and Love of God in supporting them under violent Temptations, and

Books Printed for Nath. Crouch.

and at length filling their Souls with Divine Consolations. With the memorable Conversion, exemplary Repentance, and Dying Expressions of late Earl of Rochester. Approved of as very necessary for confirming poor doubting Believers. *W. Dyer, Minister of the Gospel.* Price One Shilling.

38. **C**hrist's Famous Titles, the Second Part Containing several significant Names, titles and Similitudes, whereby our Lord Jesus Christ is described in the Holy Scriptures: Namely,
I. The great Shepherd.
II. The Power of God.
III. The Wisdom of God.
IV. The Glory of his People.
V. The Light of the World.
VI. The Gift of God; And,
VII. The Hope of Salvation. In Seven Sermons preach'd in, and about the City of London. Pursuant to the Design of the First Part formerly published. By *William Dyer, late Minister of the Gospel.* Price One Shilling.

39. **T**HE Welcome Communicant, Containing brief Directions to the weakest Christians how to proceed from One Grace to another, according to the Rule of the Holy Scriptures, that so they may come with Cheerfulness and Acceptance to the LOR^D'S TABLE. Together with Devotions and Prayers, before, at, and after the Receiving of the Holy Communion. By *A. H. D. D.* Price 6 d.

F I N I S.